

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

## AND China Oberland Trade Report.

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### BIRTHS.

On March 26th, at Acton, London, the wife of F. F. RAPER, of a daughter.

On March 28th, at Shanghai, the wife of T. F. W. MAMMEN, of a daughter.

### MARRIAGE.

On April 2nd, at Christ Church, Canton, HAROLD STAPLES, elder son of GEORGE MACKRILL SMITH, of Tooting, formerly of Canton, to HARRIETTE MAUD, youngest daughter of CAPT. W. HOGG, J.P., late of Davenham House, Congleton, Cheshire.

### DEATH.

On March 27th, at Shanghai, of meningitis, VITTORIO PALAZZI, infant son of F. PALAZZI.

## Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.  
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### ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The English Mail of 9th March arrived, per the ss. *Devanha*, on Thursday, the 5th instant.

### FAR EASTERN NEWS.

The Ministers of eleven nations have now agreed to withdraw their garrison troops at the end of April.

A Chinese industrial exhibition is to be held shortly in Mukden, to forestall a similar project by the Japanese.

Viceroy Chang Chih-tung has memorialised the Throne for permission to transfer his viceregal capital to Hanyang.

It is stated that at the request of the British Minister, Wucheng on the Poyang Lake is to become a treaty port.

The recommendation of H. E. Tieh Liang, that an arsenal be established at Cauchon, is to be carried into effect.

The *Singapore Free Press* joins in "chaffing" those Hongkong Volunteers who employ coolies to carry their rifles to the range.

Mr. Arthur Turner has been appointed a member of the Governing Body of Queen's College in succession to Mr. Jas. Orange, resigned.

Chang Chih-tung has wired to the Shanghai that he is completing his arrangements for the construction of waterworks at Wuchang, with a skilled foreign engineer.

The Japanese squadron has reached Manila and a local paper, in a well-meant welcome, refers to the men as "sons of Eta." It may be mentioned that 'eta' means 'pariah,' or out-law.

Messrs. E. S. Kadoorie & Co. have received the following telegram:—"The Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Limited, have declared a dividend (Coupon No. 6) of one (1) shilling per share."

In order to carry out the stipulation in the 10th Article of the Sino-Japanese Treaty, a joint company has been formed for developing the timber industry on the Yalu river with a capital of \$1,000,000.

The Waiwupu has refused a demand by the German Minister for the dissolving of a Chinese Deep Sea Fishery Company at Chefoo, whose operations, it was complained, would interfere with the Tsingtao fisheries.

It is reported from Nanking that Viceroy Chou Fu, of that city, is drawing up a memorial for presentation to the Throne asking for the promulgation of an Imperial Edict abolishing the custom of buying and selling children as slaves or for other questionable purposes.

It is reported that the Governor of Shansi province, who is anxious to start railroad construction in his province, has telegraphed to the Chinese Minister in Washington and Brussels asking them to send to him any young Chinese who has completed his education as a civil engineer.

Commencing from March 29th all the Sikh police on night duty in the Shanghai Settlement are armed with carbines and carry fixed bayonets. In view of the numerous armed robberies, this appears a necessary innovation, remarks the *N.C. Daily News*. We hope that was the only reason for it.

The Chinese Government has been encouraged by the way that people have come forward to subscribe to public works, and probably Japanese successes in the same line of finance, that it is proposed to raise a great internal loan for the buying off all the indebtedness of the country, including the foreign indemnities.

One of the first steps towards reform in the Chinese judiciary, according to the *N.C. Daily News*, will be the establishment of a Judicial Court attached to each prefectural or district city to try civil and criminal cases; these Courts to be presided over by men who have undergone special courses in modern law. These Courts will be independent of the control of the prefect, sub-prefect, or district magistrate, as the case may be, of the city in question, who in former times, and for that matter even now, try all civil and criminal cases within their several jurisdictions, and act as they think best as to methods of obtaining evidence and the like. With the proposed new judicial Courts it will be different; for each judge or presiding magistrate must be guided by the laws now being revised at Peking by Wu Ting-fang and Shen Chia-pao.

Messrs. V. P. Musso & Co. are opening a factory at Canton for the manufacture of stockings and socks by machinery. The machines have arrived, and native operators are being instructed how to use them.

At the next ordinary general meeting of shareholders of the Yangtze Insurance Association, Limited, to be held on April 18th the Directors will recommend the payment of a dividend to shareholders of 20 per cent., \$12 per share out of the balance at credit of 1904 account, also a special dividend of 5 per cent., \$3 per share out of interest account for 1905, and the transfer of \$50,000 to credit of reserve fund, bringing the fund up to \$800,000.

The stoker on board the police pinnace No. 3 was drowned on the 1st April at Tolo Harbour, near Taipo. How the fatality occurred is not very clear. The Europeans on board were startled about five o'clock when the launch was under weigh by hearing the cry "Stop launch: man overboard." A boat was immediately lowered, but when it got within about 100 yards of the man he sank. Although search was made, they failed to discover the body, and the launch returned to Hongkong. It is supposed deceased had gone to the stern on some business and fallen overboard.

The budget for Tokyo city this year is as follows:—

|   | Yen.      |
|---|-----------|
| Receipts .....                          | 2,189,530 |
| Expenditures:—                          |           |
| City Office .....                       | 154,376   |
| Ward Offices .....                      | 429,756   |
| Civil engineering works .....           | 526,947   |
| Education .....                         | 40,131    |
| Sanitary .....                          | 411,116   |
| Relief fund .....                       | 43,055    |
| Electric and gas lights in street ..... | 19,031    |
| Extraordinary expenses .....            | 518,498   |

Certain sums are also set aside for expenses of meetings, etc.

The following items are quoted from a native newspaper.—Mr. Pokotiloff still insists on the carrying out of the stipulations of the secret treaty made with ex-Taotai Chou Mien.—The Tibetan Treaty negotiations are again at a standstill.—The Shansi officials and gentry have decided to begin their railway operation with a line from Taiyuan to Pingyao, a distance of 300 li and more.—It is reported that the Japanese and American Ministers have both expressed themselves that should China succeed in raising the great domestic loan to pay off the indemnity indebtedness, their Governments would forego their share, in manifestation of their appreciation of the patriotic spirit of the Chinese.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct that the Board for the Examination of Interpreters shall from this date, 28th March, be incorporated with and shall form a sub-committee of the Board of Examiners. His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. Francis Arthur Hazeland to be a member of the Board of Examiners. The board is now constituted as follows:—Francis Henry May, C.M.G. (Chairman), Thomas S. Combs Smith, Ho Kai, M.B., C.M., C.M.G., Alexander Macdonald Thomson, Rev. Thomas William Pearce, Arthur Winbolt Brewin, James Dyer Ball, Rev. Gustav Adolph Gussman, Edward Alexander Irving (hon. sec. ex-officio), Rev. Henry Richard Wells, Cecil Clementi, Arathoon Seth, I.S.O., and Francis Arthur Hazeland.



## CHINESE APHORISMS MIS-INTERPRETED.

(Daily Press, 2nd April).

As there is no country where the ancient literature contains more practical aphorisms concerning the business of government, there certainly is no country on earth where the application of these wisely conceived aphorisms is so persistently and studiously ignored as in China. It is not that they are forgotten, for they are in every scholar's mouth, and are repeated *ad nauseam* by every village dominie, but it seems to be the case that in the course of ages they have become so diluted by inane repetition, and so disguised by glosses of the particularly impractical kind that distinguishes the school of Chu Hsi and his successors, that it has become an actual impossibility for the ordinary student to pick out the few remaining grains of truth from the vast accumulation of chaff and rubbish which surrounds them on every side. The more the modern student tries to go on his own account into the ancient literature of China, the more he is struck with this inability of the expounder to grasp the plain meaning of these simple rules handed down from an earlier and more practical age. The Shu King is full of these misunderstandings. Originally, in the main, composed of metrical ballads, as was common with all nations who had established settled government prior to the introduction of writing, when they came to be reduced to writing there were found to be attached to these ballads innumerable glosses which the scribes were unable or unwilling to separate; and their successors, more remote in time and feeling from the original rhymes, introduced still worse perplexity by attempting to amalgamate the two, and adding to this confused farrago their still more inane conclusions. The modern commentators, as Legge, accepting all these as of equal authority, have introduced still greater confusion in their vain attempts to make out of the result a connected history. A curious example of this is to be found in the collection known as the Cheo Shu, "Book of Cheo," which, a mixture of ancient verse and more modern gloss thickened with a paste of modern comment generally of the most jejune and tasteless description, has been offered to the West as a true and genuine fragment of ancient history. The twentieth of these so-called books, denominated the officers of Cheo, the (Cheo Kwan) is a good instance of the method. The introduction tells us that CH'ENG, the "Finisher", who by the euhemerists is made to follow the two twins of the legend, WAN and WU, is represented, as returning to the State Capital after inspecting the country brought into order by his predecessors. For the guidance of his officers he repeats the ancient ballad containing the rules handed down by tradition for the governance of the kingdom.

若 制 保  
昔 治 邦  
大 于 于  
猷 未 未  
亂 危

This may be freely translated:—

To men of yore these two great guiding principles we owe: Before disorder rears its head, your government consolidate;

To arm your troops do not neglect, e'er hostile forces storm the gate.

He then takes up the burden of the old ballad, half mythical, half astronomical, which had floated down the centuries:—

"In the olden days Yao and Shun

Established officers over the hundred affairs:  
Within they exercised their prescribed duties (in the four quadrants).  
Without were the chiefs of the nomads (each in his own land).  
The whole land was in harmony:  
And the many states at peace.  
With Hia and Shang the officers became perverse:

To secure respect they resorted to violence.  
But our glorious kings,  
Thinking not of the feelings of their officers,  
Respected the desires of the people.  
Now we, their degenerate descendants,  
Day and night take no rest;  
Diligently basing our conduct on the principles of virtue,  
And pondering deeply the councils of former days.  
We point the Path for our officers."

So much for the principles of the sages. They were at least practical, and their rhythmical form in the early days of the states, before the literate had become an element in the body politic, made them universally known and easily understood of the people at large. But with the introduction of writing, which from the beginning assumed an ideographic form, and was in consequence confined to a very limited class of experts, these old floating ballads by degrees went out of use; and even their form was forgotten. As a fact the new ideographic writing had as little in common with the vernacular language as has the tightly compressed press telegram of to-day with the ordinary conversational English of current use. The natural result of all this was that the old rhythmical songs died out of popular recollection; and this process was hastened by the introduction under T'SIN SHIHWANGTI, of what he called his "universal" script, which was intended to make the speakers of the numerous languages and dialects which then prevailed in the land mutually intelligible. But the process had other and, we may add, less profitable results for China at large. It introduced a separate class with aims and thoughts essentially their own, and opposed to the instincts of the people at large, and this class has ever since contrived to monopolise the avenues to influence. We see their benumbing effects even in the chapter with which we commenced. The very next paragraph shows how marked is the difference in style. "I appoint," the king is made to say, "the Grand Teacher, Grand Assistant, and Grand Guardian. These to be the three Kung, to talk over the ways and courses of the land, and to amicably separate the Yin and Yang: these need only be appointed if capable men are available. I also appoint a Junior Teacher, Junior Assistant and Junior Guardian. These to be the three Ku, to help the Kung to diffuse the transforming influences, and reverently to enlighten the ways of Heaven and Earth, and assist the Sovereign." Practically the distinction is much the same as between ARISTOTLE and the Schoolmen. The commentators quoted by Legge, and Legge himself, fall into a still worse Serbonian bog of ineptitude and ignorance. After quibbling about certain characters they go on to say, "The whole meant 'in ancient times, the age when right principles greatly prevailed.'" GAUBIL takes the passage thus and appears to think that some great meaning lies hid in it. He translates:—"Anciently in the time *de la grande loi*, good government consisted in preventing troubles, and in preserving the kingdom without danger"; adding in a note, "We see that the time of the grand law is a time of innocence: the troubles and the dangers of States come not till after this time. I believe that King CH'ENG means to say

that innocence of manners and public tranquillity are the basis of good government. The commentaries give here no light on the text." Truly the Book of Proverbs says rightly, "The conies are but a feeble folk!" Unfortunately it is the misfortune of China that it has ever been by the conies that the government of the land has been administered, and its ancient philosophy misapplied.

## MISSIONARY AMENITIES.

(Daily Press, 3rd April.)

The North-China Daily News appears to have been taken to task for publishing mendacious native versions of the recent affair at Nanchang, and our contemporary explains that "No-one could think that when we reprinted the Nanchangpao's dispatches we endorsed them in any way; we merely reprinted them that our readers might know the version that was being circulated to excite an anti-foreign feeling in the Chinese." And to leave no doubt as to its opinion of the mischievous reports referred to, our contemporary says:

We have already expressed a decided opinion, based on all the evidence that had come to our knowledge, that the magistrate CHIANG at Nanchang committed suicide, and that no-one in the Roman Catholic Mission had any hand in his death. We know now on the highest authority that this opinion is confirmed by the post-mortem examination, which has left no doubt that it was a case of deliberate suicide."

This, as confirming our own view of the matter, and once for all settling the only material fact, was gratifying reading; but in the same issue of our contemporary there appears a letter from a Protestant missionary which has given us still greater satisfaction. It has raised the community, to which the writer belongs, very considerably in our esteem. "Fairminded" begins,

"I am a Protestant—before coming to China a pretty narrow one, I fear. For a good many years I have been a missionary in an interior city of China. At the time of my arrival here the work of my mission was in its early stages and the Catholic propaganda, as usual, older and much more extensive. I had heard and read much about the un-Christian methods employed by the Catholics, and they were more than corroborated to all seeming by the iniquities poured into our ears by the natives with the most plausible and convincing detail. This priest 'had knocked a mandarin's hat off in his own yamen' that one had dragged a poor man who chanced to offend him through the streets with his queue tied to his horse's tail, etc., etc. Surely men capable of such audacious wickedness were sealing the doom of the very cause they would advance. But I soon found that the community at large by no means accredited all the depravity of the 'foreign devils' to the Catholics. In the Protestant hospitals, with all their patronage, eyes were gouged out, and hearts made into foreign medicine."

After pointing out the serious crimes to which repetitions of such nonsense instigates the Chinese proletariat, this missionary remarks, with a shrewdness that some of his colleagues might be the better for possessing, "If we could hear such stories about ourselves, by a little enquiry, how must we be represented to the Catholics?" This missionary and his colleagues decided that co-operation was better than quarrelling, and they learned to esteem their Catholic neighbours most highly, "and to feel that the rumours circulated to their discredit are without foundation." It appears, and it is a very likely thing to happen, that there are Chinese who go from Catholic to Protestant, and vice versa, tittle-tattling for personal gain, carrying slander to a quarter in which they cunningly assume it will be favourably received. Unhappily we know that it has often been



so received, and not only received, but passed on, as "evidence collected on the spot." The Protestant missionary whom we have been quoting speaks of "the testimony usually had by Protestant missionaries—native reports." Referring to the Catholic missionaries, and *à propos* Nanchang, we may add, he writes, "As to their principle of procedure in such troubles, it does not appear to me to be so much at variance with our own, as would seem from the partisan reports one hears generally."

#### 1900 AND 1906.

(Daily Press, 4th April.)

There is a striking similarity between the tone of the Press to-day and its tone prior to the events of 1900. Then as now the rumours of trouble were scouted, and denounced as alarmist exaggerations. Then as now the world was advised that there was no danger. Some anti-foreign prejudice undoubtedly existed, as it undoubtedly exists now, but the Chinese knew better than to make trouble; they had been long enough in contact with the foreigner to recognise how hopeless any effort to oust him from the Empire must be. This is what we are being told six years after; we can but hope with more reason. The Chinese authorities, of course, deny that any contretemps is likely; and they profess ability to cope with anything of the sort if it should occur. It may be that they are right in disbelieving that anything unpleasant is afoot among the proletariat; although we certainly cannot countenance the theory of its utter improbability; but it is almost a certainty that in assuming the effectiveness of control from Peking, the native authorities claim too much. If they honestly believe that they could check a popular movement of the kind, they deceive themselves, and the truth is not in them. The glaring ineptitude of Peking where petty local outbreaks, even the lawlessness of small gangs of robbers, are concerned, has long been in evidence. They forget, or more probably they deliberately shut their eyes to the fact, that the popular resentment is not directed solely at the foreigner. The feeling animating the minds of the malcontents is of a manifold nature, inspired by diverse troubles. The anti-foreign prejudice, the desire for exclusion and seclusion, is a long smouldering fire, fanned by many recent breezes, and stirred up, no doubt, by the spectacle of the late war, with its loss of prestige to the foreigner, and its contingent apotheosis, by the ignorant and thoughtless, of the Asiatic *quid* Asiatic. But the anti-dynastic agitation is quite a separate little conflagration, which has also had a good deal of oil poured on it lately. There is scarcely a white man on the whole China coast who does not shake his head solemnly when asked what the possibilities are in the now not unlikely event of the death of the DOWAGER EMPRESS. We must grant that both the recent missionary massacres, separately considered, were strictly local outbreaks, and to a considerable extent prompted by purely local circumstances. So was the Shanghai riot of December; but it seems silly to persist in regarding them *en bloc* as indicating nothing more than coincidental local irritations. An itch on the arm, a tickling sensation on the foot, a rash on the neck, each is a purely local phenomenon; but if they happen to occur within a reasonable time of each other, the man would be foolish who did not realise that he was, in common parlance, in "a bad habit of body." We notice that the apologists, as we may

call them, have many explanations to offer. One reminds us that the missionaries are constantly causing irritation and resentment. Another points out the annoyance of the Chinese masses at seeing their temples converted into secular schools. Others explain that it is all due to that little learning which spells danger: that it is nothing more than the eruptions of a set of young students. Taking these and all the other things together, it would be surprising if there were no unrest in China, and serious unrest at that. Such serious unrest unquestionably exists, and while the foreigner, by skating very swiftly indeed, may get over the thin ice, there is always imminent risk of a smash. If only the masses could be persuaded of the hopelessness of resisting the disconcerting innovations that we call civilisation, and be made to realise what feeble folk they are, judged by the modern standard of strength, the trouble might be averted. But this knowledge must be spread far more quickly than seems possible in such a country. Every missionary in the land ought to stick to one text for a time, that one mentioning the futility of "kicking against the pricks," and preach it in season and out of season. The suggestion is not so frivolous as it sounds.

#### FIGHTING A LOSING BATTLE.

(Daily Press, 5th April.)

We suggested two or three weeks ago that the Health Authorities of Hongkong, in their various efforts to stamp out infectious disease, were and had been "ploughing the sand." This discouraging idea found an echo at the meeting of the Sanitary Board on Tuesday, when various statements were made to show that for its enormous expenditure of money in this connection the Colony is getting very inadequate results. First of all, a typical specimen of Sanitary Board enterprise was mentioned. This body of professional men and enthusiastic amateurs, of doctors who disagree and empirics who welcome experiments with the *empressement* due to infallible remedies, had become enamoured of a patent dustbin. They might reasonably have recommended their pet receptacle to all and sundry, but they were not satisfied to do so; they proposed to alter their by-laws, or by-words, so as to make the purchase and use of the four-dollar dustbin compulsory. For the common weal, it is often desirable that common action should be enjoined upon the people, and in this case it was desirable that all dustbins used should be of non-absorbent material. But that was not what the sapient committee proposed; they proposed to make certain people purchase a certain article at a certain price; or at least that is what in effect their scheme would have amounted to. To reduce the risk to human health, they would rob their constituents of that which is dearer than life itself, what our American friends call the inalienable rights of man. The next important reference was to anti-plague measures, in which it appeared that His Excellency the GOVERNOR hoped the Board might learn something from the programme followed in India. Dr. PEARSE, M.O.H., to whom the germ world is as an open book, declared there was nothing new in the paper from India, that Hongkong was working on much the same lines, although modified by local conditions. We gather from his remarks that he is in favour of offering a reward for dead rats, "say, five cents per head." This is done in Japan, and the amount paid each year does not

grow any less. We suspect that if it were tried in Hongkong, a new industry, that of rat culture, would promptly start. The rapid and wholesale rate at which these animals reproduce their kind would make it a very remunerative business for the coolie population. We remember an incident in Japan, where a coolie presented for payment five or six corpses of such immature appearance that official suspicion was awakened, and the coolie detained. Another coolie entered soon afterwards, with the corpse of a female rat which bore the sign manual of a surgical operation, the nature of which may be readily guessed. JOHN CHINAMAN would improve on that. He would have sufficient patience to wait until he could offer the Sanitary Board full value for its five cents, both as to number and size. This business of rat killing is a clear case of ploughing the sands. If all the rats were exterminated, and no more allowed to enter, there would still be the cockroaches, flies, and other small deer, which Dr. PEARSE himself has told us can and probably do infect our food. The Sanitary Board, by its worship of the whitewash brush, has made respectable people afraid to report the presence of rats; was there ever, for instance, an invitation for the rat-catchers to visit any Hongkong hotel? Then those rat-flanges on ship moorings, for the omission of which shipowners and captains have often had to pay heavily, are they not as great an absurdity as any one of the experiments and fads adopted by the Sanitary Board? We have seen them ornamenting hawseas which no sane rat would dream of walking on, when all he had to do was to step or jump ashore. The question of vacating infected blocks is settled, apparently, by the fact that there is no place to put the evicted people. Japan evicts and burns out an acre of dwellings at a time, but conditions there are of course more favourable. The Great Fire of London was a blessing in disguise, it will be remembered, but a Great Fire of Hongkong could only be of temporary benefit, with Canton continuing to send us all the germs we can swallow. That question of inspecting and quarantining arrivals from Canton seems to be regarded as impossible, in which case we are indeed ploughing in sand. What is the good of repairing a number of small leaks if we have to leave the big, gaping, central inrush of disease? It is like the reported test for lunacy, possibly apocryphal, which consisted of setting the suspect to baling out a cask into which a tap was running. If he turned off the tap, he was sane; if he didn't—the alternative we will not mention, in order to avoid causing uneasiness to our Health Authorities. Anti-vaccinators will smile at the M. O. H. on the subject of plague inoculation. He thinks it highly probable that the susceptibility to plague is increased during the first few days after inoculation, and that "whatever protection is afterwards afforded by it rapidly passes off." It is very probable, in spite of that, that in some plague-stricken land, say India, legislators will make inoculation compulsory. Some day, the millions who pin their faith to some patent medicine may realise that they have an effective majority, and willy-nilly, for the good of the community, we shall all have to swallow daily doses of Gamboe Pills for Grumbling People. It will then be of no avail to repeat Dr. PEARSE's words, "I should certainly prefer to seek protection by ordinary care of one's health."

Mr. HENRY HUMPHREYS objected to the semi-annual lime-washing as a useless



annoyance of both landlord and tenants, and though we fully appreciate his arguments, we think the proposal he made, that it be compulsory once a year, was absurdly inconsequent. No one supposed, unless they were very simple, that lime-washing was a preventative or disinfectant. It was insisted upon, we are told, as an encouragement of cleanliness generally. Unless the Sanitary Board has ceased to believe it can make Chinese peasants clean by Act of Legislature, it should not rest satisfied with defeating Mr. HUMPHREYS' motion, but should insist upon lime-washing quarterly, or even oftener. To encourage cleanliness only twice a year is as bad as to go to church only at Easter time. The question is, however, does it do anything of the sort? We have seen a Chinese shop routed out and lime-washed, the inmates objecting but only passively protestant; and the furniture and stock, covered with the extraneous accretions that had for months been the happy hunting ground of the microbe folk, was pushed back, uncleaned, against the exemplary walls. The Chinese idea was, "thank goodness, that's over;" and the hygienic good seed intended to blossom into flowers of cleanliness fell on stony ground: the Sanitary Board had, in fact, ploughed another furrow in the sand. Of a piece with the rest, may be mentioned Mr. HEWITT's semi-tragic revelations, as to pools of stagnant water on Government property. It is hardly likely the Government or the contractors would have raised objection if a few of the Sanitary Board's coolies had been sent to bale out and wipe up the mosquito hatches referred to. Then the evil would not have continued while the agitated member was studying his bottleful of organic matter, and raising quite unnecessary doubts as to whether Government property is outside the law or not. It is not outside the law, where public health is concerned, and if any time is wasted in discussing abstruse legal precedents while the malarial insects are attending to their business, then the public will be entitled to say severe things, not the least severe being, "How like the Sanitary Board." Like the hoofbeats of a well-known anecdote, it was "propetty, propetty, propetty," that ambled through the discourse of Mr. HUMPHREYS as he begged for Cantonese statistics. We are with him there, although less hopeful; but there can be no doubt that the figures would only strikingly confirm the fact of which we are fully persuaded, and against which the Sanitary Board confesses it has no remedy. Canton is the source of most of our disease. We have told recently how brazenly the most infectious and contagious diseases stalk abroad at Canton; and if the Chinese authorities are so indifferent to the diseases their people live with, it is hardly to be expected they will pay much attention to the complaints they die of. Hence any statistics they send are unlikely to be of much service, and we hope Mr. HUMPHREYS' remark that they would be "worth much money" will not be taken seriously by the TREASURER. In various places the remark occurs that certain sanitary reforms are out of the question because they cost too much. Apart from the view that considerations of expense should not outweigh real needs, there is the reflection that in much experimenting and tinkering, much money is wasted, and the public needlessly worried. We are rather sorry that Mr. LAU CHU-PAK, whose excellently argued "minute" speaks for itself, did not say something in reply to Dr. CLARK's remark that we cannot quaran-

tine Canton because we "depend mostly for many of our supplies on Canton." We should be glad of a really sound demonstration that we cannot manage without those supplies.

### THE BRITISH FLEETS.

(Daily Press, 6th April)

The British Admiralty, frightened out of its seven senses by the continually increasing annual expenditure made necessary by the efforts of certain of the Continental Powers to increase the power of their naval forces, has taken the very sensible step of separating certain home services from the general Navy Estimates. Why, for instance, it argued fairly, should the whole of the scientific expenses of Greenwich Observatory, and more markedly still the cost of the home Coastguard, be counted in the naval expenditure of the Empire? Clearly, though Greenwich Observatory was originally started in the entire interest of the Navy, it has long since ceased to apply itself merely to naval matters, and concerns itself mainly with matters of scientific interest, which every nation nowadays, whether naval or not, considers has a call on the national resources. The Coastguard, though occasionally on an emergency it has been used by the Navy temporarily as a means of supplying deleted crews, has otherwise no connection with the Navy, and its upkeep as a matter of protection of the Customs revenue, and the mere policing of the coasts of the Three Kingdoms, has no more to do with the Navy than has the policing of the city of Birmingham. So far for the Navy itself, whose duties are to superintend and protect the enormous seaborne commerce of the British Empire: and this statement at once raises the further question: Why, seeing that the Empire consists of so many units which, although controlled by a strong central power, are yet in many respects, especially financial, independent of the central control, should no attempt be made to apportion expenses to the relative necessities of each case? More particularly is this the case with respect to the great fleet which Great Britain is by the necessities of her position bound to keep in the Mediterranean Sea. In the days of NELSON the Mediterranean fleet was kept up, it may be said, merely in the interest of the home country. NAPOLEON was threatening with his Continental military combinations the very existence of the British Isles as an independent Power, and the preponderance in the Mediterranean of a British squadron as a defence to Great Britain became a matter of national necessity. But not one of the British dependencies outside the Four Seas were in any respect interested in the presence of the fleet in Mediterranean or other waters. Except as a check on the projected union of France and Russia in an overland march on India, the fleet might as well be at Barbadoes as in the Mediterranean Sea. Australia as a colony was not even thought of, the Cape had only just come under British sovereignty, and Canada was thought worth only a few frigates to protect the town of Halifax; and in any case did not concern herself about the European stations of the fleet. At the present day, of course, all this is changed. The Mediterranean is the highway of British commerce not only with our great dependency of India, but with a large proportion of the Pacific, and its influence in merely European politics has shrunk correspondingly. This is well shown in a single incident. After the completion of the great naval manoeuvres of the summer

the Admiralty decided that only four battle-ships should for the time be left in the Mediterranean fleet. Even a quarter of a century ago the whole British nation would have risen in indignation at such a proposal. Except the complaints of those immediately concerned for private reasons, the explanation that it is more important at the moment to strengthen the North Sea fleet has been held sufficient, on the understanding that no permanent weakening is intended. The Mediterranean fleet has its own special function, but at the instant that being secure, a momentary withdrawal in a cause where France is equally interested with ourselves is viewed with complacency. The exception here, as in many other cases really goes far to prove the rule. But in the view of the great interests of the Empire at large it is clear that the Mediterranean fleet, on which now lies the burden of preserving the main communications of the Empire at large, though it has diminished in importance when viewed merely from the Four Seas, has now an importance as affecting the Empire which it never before possessed. In the same light we must view the China fleet, though to a certain extent that name is a misnomer, as it has, according to present arrangements, to oversee the whole of the North Pacific. Seventy years ago the ships flying the British flag in the Pacific were confined to a few East India-men and a still smaller number of what were called "country ships" owned by natives of India, and their voyages never went beyond the port of Canton. Nowadays our port of Hongkong boasts that in the number of vessels entering and clearing it is the first in the world. Now the larger number of these ships sail under the British flag, but even those flying the British flag are not all owned within the Four Seas, and outside even this a not inconsiderable number carry the flag differentiated for one or other of the great colonies. The trade of the modern Pacific is in effect the trade of the Empire, even more distinctly than it is the trade of the Three Kingdoms. Even in that large portion that has its headquarters in the British Isles the British resident on the Pacific coast engaged in building up the British Empire in these distant regions has his share of the proceeds, while a by no means inconsiderable portion of the trade is between the British Colonies themselves, and never sees the British Isles. Every year, then, the British Navy is becoming more and more Imperial, and less European, and it would not be either a useless or uninteresting task to ascertain within approximate limits how much of the cost is fairly chargeable to British, and how much to Imperial uses. The whole question may fairly become a question to be mooted at the approaching meeting of the delegates from the Colonies. This conference was to have taken place during the next summer, but the remarkable *volte face* exhibited in the recent Election has rendered a postponement inevitable. Perhaps we may find a grain of consolation even in this. Had the Unionist Cabinet remained in power their opponents were apparently prepared to throw every obstacle in the way of an understanding. With the change of government and the accession to office of the previous "outs" the latter, willingly or unwillingly, have felt compelled to take up the burden, and it is now announced that though postponed it is to be held a year later. That necessity has at last indicated the advisability of a recognition of the Imperial element in any future schemes of defence must be a source of some little satisfaction to all lovers of their country. Even three years ago the task



seemed hopeless, even now there are little Englishers who would view with some amount of satisfaction the reduction of the British Empire to the Four Seas; but the evidently unwilling concurrence of that party in the new Cabinet with the inevitable is a hopeful sign for the future.

### HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on April 3rd at the Board Room. The Hon. Dr. F. Clark (president) presided, and there were also present—Dr. W. W. Pearce, M.O.H., Dr. Macfarlane, Lieut. Col. Josling, Mr. E. A. Hewett, Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin, Mr. Lau Chu-pik, Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, Mr. H. Humphreys, Mr. Fung Wa Chun and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (secretary).

#### AMENDMENT OF A BYE-LAW.

A minute by the M. O. H. was read in which he recommended the insertion of a clause in respect of dust bins in the bye-laws governing bakeries, common lodging houses, dairies, laundries and offensive trades, and in the condition of licences for eating houses and restaurants. He said no hardship would occur as a result of the new bye-law, as most of the keepers of these premises now provided the special dust bins, which were not costly articles. If, however, a person refused to supply one of these bins they had no power to compel him.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK thought \$4 was too much to expend on a dust bin; a kerosene tin or an old iron drum or any box made impervious was good enough. He was against making it compulsory to procure from a certain man what was required by the Board.

Mr. FUNG WA-CHUN said the new dust bins were not worth half the price charged. He thought licences should be allowed to buy where they liked at cheaper prices.

Mr. HUMPHREYS concurred with Messrs. Lau Chu-pak and Fung Wa-chun.

The recommended action was accepted, an exception to be made in the case of lodging houses.

#### TO ABATE A NUISANCE.

The PRESIDENT minuted that he thought it would facilitate the work of this department if the public were informed that they could lodge complaints at the Board's district offices regarding nuisances which required early attention.

The SECRETARY submitted a draft letter regarding the matter to the Board.

#### "DIRECTED BY THE BOARD."

With a view to obviating any misunderstanding which might arise by the statement in his miscellaneous letters "I am directed by the Board," the secretary submitted certain suggestions on the matter for the consideration of the Board.

Mr. HOOPER was of opinion that the matter required consideration, and thought it should be referred to a committee to report on.

A committee was appointed to consider the forms the printed notice should take.

#### AN EXEMPTION WANTED.

Mr. Danby applied that the new kitchens on Kowloon Marine Lot No. 28, Cosmopolitan Dock, be exempted from the conditions of Section 150 of the Building Ordinance in reference to open space in rear, as with the exception of a temporary wooden fence the building was quite isolated.

The A.M.O.H. said he had visited the place and the question appeared to be one of external air regarding the rising ground and rock in the rear. He considered the question to be chiefly a technical one, and that a plan was necessary.

The M.O.H. minuted—Papers from the Building Authority show that Mr. Danby's attention was called to the want of external air when the plans were submitted, and yet the building was erected. I don't think the matter should be passed.

The PRESIDENT said the windows on the ground floor were only about five feet distant from a bank of earth which was about five foot high, and had a wooden paling fence on top. Objection was raised to the arrangement when the plans were submitted, but the building was proceeded with and now the architect asked for exemption. He agreed with the M.O.H. that exemption should be refused.

Mr. HEWETT minuted—In view of the remarks made by the President, I think the application should be refused.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS in a minute said he gathered that all that was necessary was for the Dock Co. to cut away a portion of the bank in order to afford the required open space.

The application was refused.

#### A QUESTION OF TIME.

Mr. J. Loureiro wrote asking the Board to reconsider the question of compelling the owner of Nos. 229, 231 and 233, Wing Lok Street to go to the expense of having this work done over again so soon. He pointed out that the ground surface of these houses was concreted and the drainage system altered some six years ago at the request of the Sanitary Board. The work was then carried out under the supervision of a certified architect and duly passed by the Sanitary Surveyor.

The Assistant Sanitary Surveyor reported that the concrete over the ground surface of these houses was not of good quality, and recommended that the notices be enforced.

The M.O.H. minuted—The Ordinance provides for the re-cementing of floors which have perished. From a rat prevention point of view I think the work had better be done.

Mr. H. HUMPHREYS said he could understand that portions of the flooring might require to be re-laid after six years, but the drainage should be good for 50 years if properly done.

Mr. HEWETT did not think a case for exemption had been made out. The work was apparently over ten years old and the standard at that time was far different to what is now required.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK said this was another hardship on property owners. His former suggestion that a limit of time should be laid down within which houses having already been concreted need not be re-concreted, would avoid hardship of this kind.

The application was refused.

#### A QUESTION OF URGENCY.

Mr. HEWETT said there was a question which he would like to have discussed. He wanted to know whether he should move the suspension of the standing orders and ask the question before the business was proceeded with, or should he wait till the end of the agenda. He had had no time to give notice.

The CHAIRMAN replied that he could move the suspension of the standing orders.

Mr. HEWETT, having waited for the appearance of the Vice-President, said that as the Hon. Mr. W. Chatham was not likely to attend he would now move the suspension of the standing orders to consider a matter of urgency.

Mr. HOOPER seconded.

Mr. HEWETT remarked that the point he wished to be considered was one of considerable importance. He would have given the usual notice but he had not ascertained certain facts until the previous day. He believed he was right in saying that the Government and the Sanitary Board had sent out notices urging people to take precautions against affording facilities for the breeding of mosquitoes, but yet it had come to his notice that one of the most extensive and well-equipped breeding grounds for mosquitoes was in the heart of the city. He referred to the site of the new Post Office, where there was a gathering of foul water. It might be urged that the Sanitary Board had no jurisdiction over Government premises, but it had yet to be proved that that was legal. Certainly he could not accept it as an excuse for not discussing the question. (The speaker then stooped to the floor and produced a tumbler.) This, he said, was a sample of the water. (It was foul and full of matter.) The water had commenced forming there two or three months ago, and since then the hole had been filling up with water of a most disagreeable description. There was quite a tumbler-full of mosquito germs. A singular feature was that the property had been visited daily by responsible officers of government departments, who, being wise men, had had nothing to do with anything outside their own business. The fact of that pond being there had apparently escaped their notice. He thought the question should be dealt with at once. It was desirable that that work should be under proper sanitary control, and that government property should not be outside the law as regarded nuisances. Later on he would give notice of his proposal that Government property should be controlled by the officers of the Sanitary Board (Mr.

Hooper—Hear, hear). Meanwhile he would ask the President to deal with that particular case at once.

The PRESIDENT—The matter will be attended to at once.

#### PLAGUE PREVENTION.

Correspondence relative to the plague in India was submitted.

The M.O.H. minuted—There is nothing new in this paper from India. It appears that we work in much the same way here, but local conditions of course modify work. Rats—The wholesale systematic destruction is what one would like to see here. We have tried the much advertised Common Sense poison with discouraging results. The only way to get at wholesale destruction here would be to get the people to help, and would they help unless rewards were given, say, 5 cents per rat, with an assurance that no houses would be disinfected on account of rats? Rats breed four times a year, have four to six young at a time and the augmentation breeds itself at six months. The question of importation of rats from China by rice junks, etc., comes in here and that of the handling of infected rats. Evacuation of Locality.—This seems impossible here, but the evacuation of infected blocks provided that we can shelter the Chinese poorer classes has been done here for years. Inspection of Travellers—Canton is the place we most have to fear and the question of inspection and quarantine of arrivals from there has been gone into before. Segregation of Contact.—This seems to be impossible here unless proper camps are provided, and even then will be but a very partial measure unless we have systematic house to house inspection to discover cases and can prevent their escape to Canton in the early stages. Inoculation—When we offered inoculation to the public no one accepted except a few from the Alice Memorial Hospital. From a physiological point of view it is highly probable that the susceptibility to plague is increased during the first few days after inoculation with Hoffmann's fluid and that whatever protection is afterward afforded by it rapidly passes off. I should certainly prefer to seek protection by ordinary care of one's health during a plague season.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—Almost all the measures recommended herein have been experimented here with apparently no beneficial result. They were found not only expensive but most harassing to the inhabitants and harmful to trade. I agree with Mr. Humphreys that the periodical limewashing as is done now is a mere farce. For the sake of cleanliness once a year is quite ample.

Mr. FUNG WA-CHUN—Limewashing has never been considered as a plague preventative. However, for the sake of cleanliness, I think limewashing once a year is beneficial.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—Amongst the measures recommended by the Government of India for the prevention of plague, the one to which most importance is now assigned is the destruction of rats. There can, I think, be very little doubt that such vermin are active agents in spreading plague. I have had proof of it amongst members of my own staff. Any practicable scheme for destroying rats would be welcomed by all classes of the community, but a scheme involving their purchase would require most carefully going into to prevent the possibility of wholesale importation from Canton. Rat farming locally would also have to be guarded against. I believe both these difficulties have had to be contended with to some extent. I do not notice amongst the measures recommended by the Government of India any reference to limewashing which lends colour to the view I hold (expressed more fully in my minute on mortality statistics) that limewashing is absolutely valueless as a plague preventative. I have more faith in the letting off of Chinese crackers, the sulphurous fumes of which undoubtedly possess potent disinfecting properties.

The PRESIDENT stated that the Governor had asked for a report on the nine preventative measures mentioned. He added that he did not think they could do any different to what they were doing at present. Quarantine was impracticable, because if they quarantined the vessels from Canton, whence we got our food supplies, we should starve.



Mr. HOOPER said the attention of the Government should be called to the bad condition of the pavements and side channels in the centre of the city.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that many of those were private streets.

Mr. HOOPER declared that the private streets were the best kept in the colony (laughter).

Mr. HEWETT held a different opinion with regard to the private streets.

It was agreed that the attention of the Government be called to the streets indicated.

#### MORTALITY STATISTICS.

For the week ending April 17th the death rate of the British, foreign and Chinese community, excluding the Army and Navy, at a rate of 1,000 per annum, was 16.7 as against 15.8 for the corresponding week of last year.

#### RAT RETURN.

For the week ending March 24th 621 rats were caught, of which 35 were infected, while 47 were infected out of 728 caught during the following week.

#### PLAGUE STATISTICS.

Mr. HUMPHREYS in a minute said—These mortality statistics undoubtedly afford sufficient information so far as smallpox, typhoid and minor diseases are concerned, because the nature, source and treatment of such are to a great extent well-known, but it seems to me something more is required to render plague statistics of any real value. The medical faculty and the Sanitary Board know very little about this scourge. Heroic measures have been adopted which have involved the community in a huge annual expenditure. We have harassed the European and the native, the rich and the poor, the clean and the unclean, with the result that in three years we know we have spent immense sums in sanitation; that we have increased the cost of nearly everything to such an extent that living is almost out of the question for the poorly paid European. It is computed that 50,000 of the poorer but respectable Chinese have left the Colony, and as a large percentage of these are women there is every indication to support the popular belief that increased rents, coupled with deprivation of privacy (the inevitable outcome of a rigid enforcement of the Public Health Ordinance No. 1 of 1903) have been the principal if not the only factor in this exodus. Over and above all this we have struck a blow at property (which after all is the foundation of all real prosperity) from which it will take some time to recover. Yet our plague statistics do not afford us any clue as to whether all this expenditure and sacrifice on the part of the community have been in vain. Not until the death rate per 1,000 is less, perceptibly less, than that of Canton shall we be able to say "It is well." I realise that a comparative statement showing the figures of Hongkong and Canton side by side would be difficult to get, and that when obtained might only be approximately correct, but even this would be worth much money to procure—worth all the money and more than is now wasted on smearing walls with innocuous lime-wash. Our present figures are mere records of passing interest, not as they should and might be, records fraught with possibilities of almost incalculable benefit to the Colony and humanity.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK's minute read:—The result of the many drastic measures resorted to as experiments of theories for the improvement of the health and consequently the reduction of the mortality of the Colony as referred to in Mr. Humphreys' minute would be interesting for the public to know, especially at this juncture when both property holders and house-holders are groaning under the hardship and suffering inflicted by a severer act of recent creation. Personally I still doubt if the good accruing therefrom commensurates with the enormous amount of money expended by the Government every year and discomfort forced upon the inhabitants. That 50,000 of the Chinese have left the Colony is what was anticipated. More, I am afraid, will follow suit when Ordinance No. 1 of 1903 is enforced in its entirety. It is not that they like to send their wives and children away, but they are practically compelled to do so by that enactment. As I said before, I would now repeat: Very few Chinese can afford to hire a whole floor for

themselves, the rent of which ranges from \$10 to \$75. Nor can three or four families now share a big floor together as they used to, for not more than one cubicle is allowed on each floor. In short, even the members of the same family cannot enjoy the little privacy they had before. The percentage of the wage-earning Chinese who make \$10 a month is very low. Formerly a man of this class could support a family of ten comfortably without pinching, and was considered to be very well off. He cannot do so now as the rent alone absorbs a quarter or more of his income. Those who are earning from \$20 to \$30 per month are in a very sad plight. They simply find it impossible to keep their wives and children with them without dodging the law. In the case of the property owners they are almost every day receiving a notice to do this or alter that, thus putting them to endless trouble and loss. I quite sympathise with them and do not at all feel surprised that many refrain from investing their money in property. With regard to the procurement of statistics from Canton, I am of opinion some arrangement can be made with the Chinese Government for furnishing the Hongkong Government with fairly correct information. It is true that the Chinese officials keep no record of deaths, nor is the nature of the diseases reported to them, but there are so many hospitals which do, and also the Kaifong committees who always know more or less of any death occurring in their particular ward. The coffin shops, too, can always tell between themselves the number of deaths taking place every day. I am sure, with the help of these people the Chinese Government will be able to supply the information as desired. If, however, the expert advisers of the Sanitary Board do not care to have such information from Canton, why not approach the Macao Government? Since the outbreak of plague, sanitary measures, though in a much more lenient form, have been enforced in that colony, and there are qualified officers in charge of the work.

Mr. FUNG WA-CHUN—No doubt it is desirable to know what result has been attained after so many experiments. I think comparative details should be obtained from neighbouring ports as far as practical. I know as a fact a lot of hardship is being caused by drastic measures.

Mr. HUMPHREYS said the Board were somewhat in the position of a merchant carrying on a large business without proper books of account. They knew they were spending large sums of public money and causing a great deal of inconvenience to almost everybody to the Colony, but they did not know whether they were doing any good with regard to plague. They had had three years' experience of the Health Ordinance of 1903, and the time had now arrived when the period of experiment should cease and some endeavour made to find whether they were doing any good or not. The other day the Hon. Mr. Gershom Stewart, in criticising the Sanitary Board estimates, wanted to know whether they were going to continue on a war footing in time of peace. While realising the difficulty of getting the desired information, the speaker did not think any attempt had been made to obtain it. Report had it that when there was plague in Canton, Swatow and other places, we had plague in Hongkong, and when there was no plague in those places we had none in Hongkong. It would be satisfactory to know whether report was true or not, and he would move that the Government be asked to take steps to ascertain the rate of mortality per 1,000 of the population in Canton and Macao with a view to this Board issuing comparative returns.

The PRESIDENT thought it would be better not to limit it to plague, but to ask for the general death rate.

Mr. HUMPHREYS accepted this alteration.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK seconded. He said the public were entitled to know the results of their sacrifices.

The PRESIDENT referred to the difficulties in the way of getting reliable returns. It was not only a question of getting to know the number of deaths, but the extent of the population.

The resolution was carried after further discussion.

#### LIME-WASHING.

Mr. HUMPHREYS, before moving his resolution, asked the President if the medical men considered lime-washing as a preventative of plague.

The PRESIDENT—Yes, I should say most emphatically it does. It tends to cleanliness and anything which induces greater cleanliness is to a greater or less extent a preventative.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—You don't regard it as being a disinfectant?

The PRESIDENT—No.

Mr. HUMPHREYS then stated his opinion that lime-washing once a year was all that was necessary for purposes of cleanliness, and he moved that "the Board recommend the Government to alter the bye-laws relating to lime-washing, so as to make lime-washing compulsory once in twelve months in lieu of six months."

Mr. FUNG WA-CHUN seconded.

The PRESIDENT said he was opposed to the resolution, because experience had shown that the houses became very dirty at the end of six months.

Mr. HUMPHREYS remarked that that was largely due to the unsatisfactory way in which the lime-washing was done. In many cases it was an absolute farce. He thought it would be better if the Government did the work and charged the landlords.

Dr. PEARSE doubted if they would improve matters by lime-washing once in twelve months instead of once in six. He did not consider twice a year too much.

Mr. HOOPER said that what they wanted was cleanliness. They should not insist on every Chinese house being lime-washed, but allow a differentiation where the tenants kept their houses clean. He called attention to the filthy condition of the roof of the Central Market. "That," he said, "is our house. What will the Chinese think of us? It is dirtier than any coolie house."

Mr. HUMPHREYS said that lime-washing well done once a year would be better than ten times done badly. He thought landlords would be willing that the Government should do the work and charge them.

Mr. HEWETT agreed with the President. Lime-washing ensured cleanliness.

The PRESIDENT having pointed out that the Board would amend their own bye-laws, the motion was altered accordingly.

On being put to the vote, three supported it and three were against it. The President gave his casting vote against the resolution.

#### THE NEW P. AND O. STEAMER.

The *Devanha*, the last of the four new vessels built specially for the Far Eastern service by the P. and O. Company, arrived here on April 5th with the English mail. This, her maiden voyage, has been eminently successful. With her accommodation almost taxed to its uttermost, the vessel behaved splendidly, and the passengers sing her praises with unanimity. From the description which we gave this week it will be understood that the *Devanha* is of the same type as the other new vessels, being distinguished for her wide sweep of decks, up-to-date conveniences and every comfort which can be expected on board. She has perhaps a few improvements not found on the others. She steams very steadily and those on board say they were hardly conscious of her moving. From Colombo onwards great heat was experienced, greater than usual, up till Wednesday, when the weather became decidedly cooler. There were a out 180 passengers on board.

It is rather remarkable that there are four P. and O. steamers in port at present—two at the wharves and the two mails in the stream, while the *Ceylon* should be here to-day.

The s.s. *Mongolia* lost a day between Hongkong and Shanghai owing to the dense fogs which prevailed. On the second day out from Hongkong the vessel ran down a Chinese fishing smack in the obscurity of the fog, and it was feared that some of the crew of the junk perished, although it was not known to a certainty. Two of the shipwrecked Chinamen were picked up by the *Mongolia's* lifeboat and each given a sack of rice and were placed aboard another fishingboat that happened to pass.



## ALICE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The annual meeting of the Finance Committee of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals was held in the Alice Memorial Hospital yesterday afternoon. Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin presided, and there were also present—Dr. I. E. Mitchell (secretary), Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Revs. T. W. Pearce and H. R. Wells, Messrs. G. Murray Bain, D. Clark, S. W. Tso, Lau Chu-pak, Choi Lap-chee, Fung Wa-chun, U. Hoi-chow and others.

The notice convening the meeting having been read, the minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN announced that they had approached the executors of the late Mr. Granville Sharp's estate with a view to getting assistance, but were informed by them that they had no power to assist in any way. They then addressed a letter to the registrar of the Supreme Court and he promised to consider the scheme to see whether any available balance could be given to assist the hospital, but he was not in a position at that time to say whether any balance was available.

Mr. MITCHELL presented his report as Superintendent, which was laid on the table.

The Rev. H. R. WELLS, hon. treasurer, in submitting his report, said that members would see from the accounts that despite the fact of their having received over \$10,000 in donations last year they were still behind owing to expenses continually growing. This year they would have to meet further expense, the expense of collecting. From this time on it was intended to have someone to go round and collect subscriptions which were formerly collected by members of the finance committee. Unfortunately the dividends on their shares had dropped very largely during the year, and it seemed that they would drop still further this year; therefore they would have to redouble their efforts. On Land Investment shares they get \$1,852.50 last year, but they should probably receive several hundred less this year. He trusted members would endeavour to increase the amount of their subscriptions.

Mr. BAIN had great pleasure in moving the adoption of the treasurer's report. It was not so bright as it might have been, but other reports showed in the same light. He thought the least they could do was to thank the treasurer for his work. They should also thank the Chairman and auditors.

Mr. TSO, in seconding the motion, said he thought the guarantee fund should be included in the report.

The CHAIRMAN said the secretary would see that the list of guarantors, and the amount they subscribed, was inserted in next year's report, and the motion was carried.

Rev. Mr. PEARCE moved that the Hon. Mr. Brewin be re-appointed chairman. They could not find a better chairman, neither could they find one as good.

Rev. Mr. WELLS seconded the motion. Mr. Brewin had done a great deal to help in raising money, as the members of committee knew.

The motion was agreed to unanimously.

Mr. BREWIN, in returning thanks, said he would have much pleasure in serving for another year. He thought his duties were the least onerous of any gentleman connected with the hospital, and he could only assure the treasurer that he would give him every assistance possible in keeping the finances of the hospital in a satisfactory condition (applause). During the year some additions had been made to the personnel of the finance committee, and he moved that the appointment of Messrs. Choi Lap-chee, Ho Kom-tong, Li Yau-chün, Pun Yau-tsun, U Hoi-chau and Wong Fa-nung to that body be confirmed.

Mr. FUNG WA-CHUN seconded.

Dr. HO KAI asked that the chairman of the Tungwa Hospital be also appointed a member.

This was agreed to, and the motion was carried.

Dr. HO KAI said as the new hospital, the Ho Mui Kwai, was now completed, he hoped arrangements would be made by the proper authorities for it being opened in the very near future. It was unnecessary that he should go into the history of the movement, but he would inform the committee that the building of that

hospital was commenced through their finding that the Alice Memorial Hospital, while most admirably suited for out-patient work, was unfit for the more serious cases, especially surgical cases. There was another matter they had to consider, and that was that some patients required small wards for themselves. In the new hospital six private wards were partitioned off, so they would be ready to receive patients who had to be isolated. Besides, a large number of Chinese in indigent circumstances, while unable to go to the Civil Hospital and pay a higher fee, would no doubt be very glad to use these wards, and on recovering might give a subscription according to their means. In accordance with a former practice he would formally move that this new hospital be affiliated with the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals, and be placed under exactly the same management and control.

Mr. TSO seconded the motion.

Rev. Mr. PEARCE said he trusted the meeting would regard the resolution as fitting. It did not require many words of commendation. He regarded this hospital as one of the best gifts that had fallen to the Colony.

The motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that the Rev. Mr. Wells had referred to the subject of the future collection of the annual donations. As that gentleman remarked, up till now, as far as Chinese subscriptions were concerned, they had always been dependent on one of the members of the finance committee doing the collecting. They were very grateful to gentlemen who had devoted so much time to this work, but they felt now the hospital was established that they were not justified in calling upon these very busy gentlemen to give so much of their time towards collecting subscriptions. He thought they might well spare the money to pay a collector. The collection of subscriptions from Europeans was also carried on in a rather haphazard way; they had to take one of the boys from his work in the hospital and send him round to collect. He proposed a small committee should be appointed to consider how subscriptions should be collected in the future and to recommend to the treasurer some man to do the work. The committee he suggested would be Dr. Ho Kai, Mr. Wood, Rev. Mr. Wells, Chau Sui-Ki, Lau Chu-pak, Pun Yau-tsun and the speaker.

Mr. FUNG WA-CHUN seconded, and the motion was carried.

Dr. HO KAI said he felt it his duty to bring before the meeting a proposal made by a certain gentleman to give the hospital a subscription. The Government was very anxious to get an institution of the same kind as the Alice Memorial Hospital at Kowloon for the dispensing of medicine and for out-patients, and for that purpose had reserved a plot of land. He was not acquainted with the ground reserved, but was assured by Dr. Clark that it was an admirable place, quite suitable for a hospital. It so happened that while he was considering whether they could not extend their work over there, and while he was devising means for the erection of such an institution, a gentleman from New Zealand entered his office, and after speaking for a time of charity said he would help to found an institution for the blind. The speaker told him he thought prevention was better than cure, and if they extended the hospital over there they would prevent a great number of boys and girls becoming blind, and thus render unnecessary the expending of his munificent gift in founding an orphanage for the blind. The gentleman saw the force of the doctor's argument, and promised to subscribe \$5,000 towards extending the Alice Memorial Hospital to Kowloon, and in the near future to add to his magnificent gift. Under the circumstances he thought he would bring the matter before the committee. He was aware some gentlemen held another view of the subject, and hoped if they had any reasons for opposing the scheme they would give them. He had seen several Chinese gentlemen in connection with the matter. Some of them were present and would say whether it was feasible that they should extend their operations to Kowloon. Before he came to the meeting a Chinese gentleman on the finance committee, who was unable to attend, kindly handed him \$50 towards the hospital. The same gentleman spoke favourably of the scheme and promised a

\$1,000 subscription, therefore so far as he could understand there would not be a lack of sympathisers of the committee, and the authority representing the London Mission would take this work in hand. It was a work they should have begun long before, but had been kept back by their needs on this side of the water. Very soon Kowloon would be teeming with a population far surpassing that of Hongkong. The railway would soon be started, and the industries which would follow its completion would attract a large labouring population who would require a free and charitable hospital to take care of them and teach them sanitary science, which the Government and every man in the room was anxious the Chinese should learn. A sub-committee might be appointed to get further subscriptions for a new hospital at Yaumati. The Tungwa Hospital, he understood, would like also to extend their work over there, and he believed the inhabitants of Kowloon had sent a communication asking for such help. They had always worked hand in hand with the Tungwa Hospital, and Dr. Mitchell and others could bear him out that they received a large number of cases from the Tungwa and did the best they could with them. On the other hand, if they had any cases which required to be sent to the Tungwa, they did not hesitate to send them there.

Mr. FUNG WA-CHUN said if he was not mistaken he thought H.E. the Governor was desirous of having a hospital of the kind mentioned at Yaumati. The building of an institution of this kind would at least cost from \$30,000 to \$100,000, and this amount would have to come from the Chinese. He was not against the scheme, but he thought it rather premature.

The CHAIRMAN said it must be very gratifying to all interested in the extension of hospitals in Hongkong to see such an instance of private munificence in assisting in the building of a hospital at Yaumati. Dr. Ho Kai mentioned that the Government had been anxious for some time to start a hospital on the other side, and explained that they had already reserved a site in a central position on which a hospital was to be built. I think, as Mr. Fung Wa-chun said, it would be premature for the Alice Memorial Hospital to take this matter in hand without consulting more widely the Chinese, to whom we have to look for subscriptions. The finance committee should approach the Tungwa Hospital and see whether any scheme could be arranged which would meet with the general support of the Chinese community. At present the Tungwa Hospital cost about \$60,000 a year to maintain, so they could not embark on a venture of this kind without assuring themselves that they would meet with general support.

Dr. HO KAI said he should like to hear from the Rev. Mr. Pearce, as representing the London Mission, his view of the subject.

Rev. Mr. PEARCE said that with regard to the extension of philanthropic work the London Mission Society would do what it could to take advantage of every opportunity for enlargement. The Mission would be delighted to strengthen any bond of sympathy with the Tungwa, and would do everything it could do to work with that hospital. He was not speaking officially, but could assure those present that the Mission would do everything in its power to extend the work, at the same time, of course, keeping to its own proper lines.

Dr. HO KAI moved that a sub-committee be appointed, consisting of all the Chinese members of the finance committee, the Hon. Mr. Brewin, Rev. Mr. Wells, Mr. Wood and himself, to confer with the Tungwa Hospital committee with a view to taking joint action in the matter, or arranging a way in which they should be able to promote a hospital at Kowloon, by which both might be able to carry out the important work of healing the sick.

Mr. BAIN thought the first duty of the committee was to accept the site which it was proposed to give them at Kowloon. Then they should accept the money and negotiate with the Tungwa Hospital.

Dr. HO KAI said they could not accept the money first, as it was promised in consideration of their extending to Kowloon.



Mr. BAIN said they were not discussing a hospital to cost \$100,000, but a dispensary on a small scale might be managed.

Mr. FUNG WA-CHUN thought it was a splendid idea, as Mr. Bain suggested, to accept the money.

The CHAIRMAN did not see how they could possibly accept the gift unless they were in favour of starting the hospital, and he did not see that they could start without first inquiring into ways and means.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK said the members of the sub-committee proposed were also members of the committee of the Tungwa Hospital. A man could not serve two masters.

Dr. HO KAI—There is but one master they serve; that is charity.

Mr. BAIN—It seems to me that it is the duty of the finance committee as now assembled to accept or reject this offer.

Mr. FUNG WA-CHUN—I don't see that there is any harm in accepting it.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—By accepting it this institution is bound to erect another hospital on similar lines on the other side of the harbour. I don't think we should accept until we find the means.

Mr. CHAU SUI-KI—How much would a new hospital cost?

The CHAIRMAN—About \$40,000. It is proposed to build a hospital for 45 beds.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—The scheme is rather a big one, and I agree with the Chairman that a committee should be appointed to consider whether we accept the offer.

Mr. BAIN proposed as an amendment the acceptance of the offer made to Dr. Ho Kai and that the matter of arranging how things are to be settled between the parties be referred to the sub-committee. From what Dr. Ho Kai had told them, the Tungwa and Alice Memorial Hospitals were working together harmoniously, and there seemed to him no great reason why they should not work together in a small affair on the other side. He considered it the duty of the finance committee to accept or reject the offer made.

Mr. CLARK seconded the amendment, which on being put to the meeting was lost.

Dr. HO KAI's motion, which was seconded by Mr. TSO, was then put and carried.

The CHAIRMAN said that before closing the meeting they should propose a vote of thanks to the staff of the Hospital for the work they had done during the past year. It was gratifying to notice that during the last seven years the number of out-patients had increased 35 per cent., and although there was not the same increase in the number of in-patients, still he had no doubt there was some very good reason for the failure. There was a section dealing with the Alice Memorial Maternity Hospital which although not referred to he did not think should be allowed to pass without remark. An increase of 45 per cent. in one year in the number of cases admitted should be described as more than satisfactory, and the outlook more than encouraging, and Dr. Sibree was to be congratulated on the progress made so far. He noted with satisfaction that the midwives trained under the Hongkong Government attended to 23 cases outside the hospital. By the increase in cases out-of-doors the progress should be judged. Every place attended meant a diminution of suffering and perhaps a saving of life.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman ended the meeting.

The report and balance sheet were as follows:—Throughout the year the number of cases treated has been well maintained. In the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals the number of out-patients has been greater, while the in-patients have been somewhat fewer than during the previous year. The Alice Memorial Maternity Hospital is slowly but surely making progress in gaining the confidence of the Chinese, who are naturally cautious in adopting methods of treatment that, to them, are new. The work of the general hospitals has been known and appreciated by the Chinese for nearly twenty years, while the Maternity Hospital has been established only as many months. As the latter becomes more widely known there is no doubt that it will be accorded the same confidence that is at present

enjoyed by the older institutions. The new Ho Mui Kwai Hospital is nearing completion, and will be ready for occupation early in 1936.

The site of this hospital, lying immediately to the west of the Nethersole and Maternity Hospitals, has been kindly given by the Hongkong Government, and the cost of erecting and furnishing the building has been undertaken by a Chinese lady belonging to a well-known Hongkong family, whose generosity is highly appreciated. During 1935, the number of in-patients in the Alice Memorial Hospital was 379, in the Nethersole Hospital 329, and in the Alice Memorial Maternity Hospital 55. In the Alice Hospital, surgical cases formed 51 per cent. of the whole, ophthalmic cases, 30 per cent. and medical cases 19 per cent., while in the Nethersole Hospital the surgical cases formed 34 per cent., medical cases 34 per cent., ophthalmic 32 per cent. Of the in-patients we mention the case of a man who was severely injured by the premature explosion of a charge of dynamite; one hand having been blown off and the other badly lacerated, besides having received severe wounds about the head and trunk. In spite of the grave nature of his injuries, and the fact that there is near the scene of the accident a large and well-equipped foreign hospital, this patient was brought by his friends to the Alice Memorial Hospital, the journey taking them three days and a half. The reason of this preference being shown to us was due to the fact that a former patient of the hospital happened to be present at the time of the explosion, and being so well pleased with the result of the treatment in his own case, he prevailed on the man's friends to convey the sufferer to Hongkong. After recovery he, too, departed to bear witness among his friends to the benefits of western medical science. Two other patients, who have been several months in the Hospital and who have become followers of the Great Physician since their admission, have borne cheerful witness to the joy that is afforded by the Christian religion even during a tedious and painful illness. These patients, by personal testimony and by loaning to other patients books which they themselves have found helpful, have sought to bring into the lives of their fellow-sufferers the joy which is found only in the Christian faith. Of the deaths which have occurred in the Hospitals during the year, many of the patients were in a moribund or a hopeless condition when received into the wards. In most cases the old story of seeking the foreign doctor when every other resource had been tried and failed. In the out-patient department the clinique at the Alice Memorial Hospital continues to lead by a very large margin in the number of cases treated. This is explained by the fact that at this Hospital the clinics are held daily, except Sunday; that both sexes are treated at each clinique; and that owing to its central location the Hospital is admirably situated for the convenience of out-patients. The clinics at the Nethersole Hospital and at Yaumati Dispensary have been well attended.

The total number of out-patients treated at these places was as follows:—Individual cases, 15,071, total visits of out-patients 27,806, including 6,112 surgical dressings. Owing to the large number of cases the expense of working the out-patient department is considerable. On reference to the balance sheet it will be seen that we end the year with an adverse balance of nearly three hundred dollars more than last year, or \$1,247.75 in all. This is more than accounted for by the smaller dividends received on invested funds. In 1934 on account of the earlier closing of accounts only half a year's dividends appear in the accounts. The amount received from investments in previous years has been \$2,865. This year the income from these sources has been \$2,202.50, a reduction of over \$600. These investments do not promise any better for 1936, and we must therefore appeal even more strongly to our friends and to all who are interested in medical work for the poor to increase their efforts on behalf of our hospitals, either by increasing their subscription or by calling the attention of friends to the needs of this work. Several patients have given liberal subscriptions this year, and a number of friends have increased the amount of their donations, and to them we would give special thanks. This year the donations have for the first time exceeded \$10,000, which is a matter for con-

gratulation in a year that has been financially bad. The expenditure for repairs shows an increase of nearly \$80 over that for the previous year. This has been owing to some necessary alterations in the sanitary arrangements, and to the accumulated results of deterioration due to climatic conditions. Mr. Wells has continued to act as honorary treasurer, and Mr. Leung Pui-chi has kindly collected the annual Chinese donations.

#### BALANCE SHEET OF THE ALICE MEMORIAL AND NETHERSOLE HOSPITALS, 1935.

| Dr.   | \$          | c. |
|---|-------------|----|
| 1935—December 31.   |             |    |
| To donations as per list ... ..   | 10,221.03   |    |
| To donations Hospital Sunday ... ..   | 656.31      |    |
| To rent from college of medicine ... ..   | 60.00       |    |
| To Refund of Belilios and Government Scholarships ... ..                            | 210.00      |    |
| To amount received for deposit Estate late H. M. Mehta ... ..                       | 500.00      |    |
| Interest on:—   |             |    |
| H. M. Cooper fund (\$500) ... ..  | 20.00       |    |
| Dorabjee Newrojee fund (\$500) ... ..   | 20.00       |    |
| Permanent fund (\$9,000) ... ..   | 540.00      |    |
| Belilios medicine fund (dividends on 175 Hongkong and Macao Steamboat shares ... .. | 330.00      |    |
| Young bequest (dividends on 195 Hongkong Land Investment shares) ... ..             | 1,852.50    |    |
| To balance ... ..   | 1,247.75    |    |
|   | \$15,677.59 |    |
| Cr.   | \$          | c. |
| By balance, overdrawn Dec. 31st, 1934 ... ..  | 973.02      |    |
| By salaries, wages, etc. ... ..   | 4,551.10    |    |
| By food ... ..  | 1,687.66    |    |
| By medicine, etc. ... ..  | 4,151.70    |    |
| By clothing ... ..  | 245.61      |    |
| By furniture ... ..   | 39.95       |    |
| By repairs ... ..   | 1,427.70    |    |
| By stationery and printing ... ..   | 588.02      |    |
| By Crown rent ... ..  | 53.52       |    |
| By fire insurance ... ..  | 108.50      |    |
| By telephone ... ..   | 100.00      |    |
| By laundry ... ..   | 239.64      |    |
| By sundries (house surgeons' accounts) ... ..                                       | 1,054.68    |    |
| By interest on overdraft ... ..   | 8.49        |    |
| By paid on deposit (H.K. & Shanghai Bank) ... ..                                    | 500.00      |    |
|   | \$15,677.59 |    |

#### SUPREME COURT.

Monday, April 2nd.

#### IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE Mr. A. G. WISE (POISNE JUDGE).

#### ALLEGED GAMBLING DEBT.

Li Kae-leung sued Li Kam-chun to recover the sum of \$712.53, being principal and interest due for money lent under two Chinese documents.

Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared for the plaintiff, the defendant being unrepresented.

The defendant, who said he was a student, admitted signing the documents before the Court, but said the money was due for gambling.

His Lordship—Where have you been picking up the law? Did you learn it in a solicitor's office?

Defendant—No, I have not studied the law.

His Lordship—Why, when you lost \$16) at gambling, did you go and gamble again?

Witness—Another man induced me.

The plaintiff was called, but denied that the defendant lost the amount claimed at gambling.

His Lordship—There will be judgment and costs for the plaintiff. If there is any truth in the defendant's story I hope this will be a lesson to him, and no doubt his father will give him a further one.

Wednesday, April 4th.

#### IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

#### WHAT IS A PLEDGE?

Re Hing Sing Cheong ex parte the Hamburg Amerika Linie.



This was an application by Mr. G. H. Wakeman, Official Receiver, that the sum of \$7,247, the net proceeds of certain goods stored in the name of the debtors, form part of the estate of the debtor.

Mr. H. W. Looker (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon) opposed the application on behalf of the Yan On Fire Insurance Co.

In delivering his decision, his Lordship said the Yan On Insurance Co. lent to the Hing Sing Cheong firm a certain sum of money on the security of a godown warrant given by the Hop Yick Godown in respect of 300 sheets of tin. Money was also lent on the security of certain bags of pepper, and entries were made in the books of the Godown Co. of the pledge. Notwithstanding the existence of such pledge the Godown Co. allowed the firm to receive some of the tin and pepper, but received from the firm some other goods without the knowledge of the Yan On Co. An entry was made in the books of the godown that the other goods were held in substitution of the original goods pledged. The Yan On remained satisfied, but did not receive a fresh godown warrant. The trustee in bankruptcy has sold these substituted goods in the bankruptcy of the Hing Sing Cheong firm and the Yan On claims the proceeds. This claim is resisted by the trustee on the ground that the Yan On has not got the godown warrant, and he contends that without it the pledge is incomplete. The point raised is really this: Is a godown warrant so indisputable a document of title that the recognition of the substituted pledge in the books of the Godown Co. is insufficient to establish the title of the Yan On? It seems that on the authority of *Young v. Lambert*, 22 L. T. 499, such a recognition in the books would be sufficient if there is no document of title. But is it good if there is a document of title such as a godown warrant? If the trustee's contention were sound, that the godown warrant is indisputable, this would be putting the godown warrant on the same level as a bill of lading. But there is abundance of authority to show that it is not entitled to be so treated (see new *Encyclopædia*; dock warrant and authorities therein cited). I am therefore of opinion that the Yan On Co. is entitled to the proceeds of the sales of the substituted goods and costs.

#### ANOTHER PARTNERSHIP CASE.

The Lai Hing firm *ex parte* Ma Leung-ko.

This was the trial of an issue to determine whether Wong Ka-cheung was, at the presentation of a petition in bankruptcy, a partner in the Lai Hing firm.

Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., instructed by Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton (of Messrs. Brutton, Hett and Goldring), appeared for the Official Receiver, and Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. R. A. Harding, represented Wong Ka-cheung.

The case was heard before the following jury:—Messrs. H. M. Kendal, G. Koenig, A. E. Slaney, G. H. Schoenemann, D. H. Silas, J. C. Gow and O. H. Schneider.

Mr. Sharp, after reading affidavits filed in the action, informed the jury the question they would have to answer was whether Wong Ka-cheung was a partner in the Lai Hing Bank at the time of its bankruptcy. The Lai Hing firm appeared to have been established somewhere about 1872 and to have carried on business for a good many years prosperously. He would show that Wong Ka-cheung had been one of the managing partners; he thought the evidence would prove that he was really the principal partner for many years. The evidence would be substantially directed to the last one or two years before the bankruptcy, because the real point to consider was whether Wong Ka-cheung was a partner when the firm became bankrupt. Shortly before last Chinese new year it became generally known that the Lai Hing bank was in financial difficulties; as the jury would no doubt remember, trouble of the kind was rather general in the Chinese mercantile community at that time. The bank held on deposit a large amount of money belonging to Chinese merchants, and these men, when the report got abroad that the bank was in difficulties, naturally went there to learn the real state of affairs. He would call several who had visited the bank and could say that they saw Wong Ka-cheung and Ma Fat-ting, who was also a partner, and discussed with them the position of the bank and the question

of their own particular deposits. A few of them were able to obtain payment; most of them were not. They would tell the court that they were put off by promises mainly made by Wong Ka-cheung, to whom they looked because he was the most substantial person in the bank. Chinese new year fell on the 4th February. On the 9th the creditors were summoned to a creditors' meeting. Three partners of the bank presided at that meeting—Wong Ka-cheung, Ma Fat-ting and another, and there were about 20 or 30 creditors present. The first partner to address the meeting was Ma Fat-ting. He told the creditors the bank was unable to collect its outstandings and asked for time. He also produced a draft agreement intended for the creditors' signatures in which they were to consent to wait nine months for half their debt and eighteen months for the balance. They refused to do this, whereupon Wong Ka-cheung got up and addressed them. He repeated the arguments of the first speaker and proposed to reduce the time to six months and twelve months. The bank's books were then referred to. They appeared to have shown outstanding assets of about \$1,900,000 and liabilities of about \$1,700,000, showing a balance in the bank's favour if the amount could be collected of two lakhs of dollars. Counsel would prove that Wong Ka-cheung said: "We three (that was himself and the other two partners) are substantial—or some word equivalent in Chinese—and if any of these debts are bad we will make up the deficiency; if the bank cannot pay you we will." At the end of the speech the other partners expressed their agreement with Wong Ka-cheung's proposal, and the creditors said they would fall in with the proposed arrangements, relying on Wong Ka-cheung, whom they regarded as the substantial person. Finally, they all signed the agreement in its modified form. About two months after that meeting a petition in bankruptcy was filed by a creditor, and Wong Ka-cheung's property in China was attached. He petitioned the Viceroy and district magistrate to get it released, telling them that he had been living for many years in retirement in China. Further he told the Viceroy that all partnerships must be registered here.

Mr. Slade—I don't know whether my friend will prove the Chinese documents.

Mr. Sharp—I shall prove that Wong Ka-cheung has made affidavits in this Court, one as recently as July, 1904—six years after he alleges he retired from the bank—stating that he was the managing partner of the Lai Hing Bank.

Continuing, Counsel said these affidavits were made in other actions, and would alone suffice for the Official Receiver's case. But he had much more evidence; he would prove that Chinese merchants were induced to do business and deposit money with this bank by Wong Ka-cheung's statement that he was a partner long after the period he alleged he finally retired from the bank. He would also prove that up to the last Wong Ka-cheung was in frequent, practically in constant, attendance at the bank as a partner, and that the bank's receipts were indiscriminately chopped with Wong Ka-cheung's chop or the bank chop. The defence apparently was that Wong Ka-cheung left the firm in 1898, nearly eight years ago, but the evidence in the Official Receiver's case dealt with more recent times entirely, and showed that for the last two or three years Wong Ka-cheung was a partner. The business of the Lai Hing was transferred at that time by the old partners to a syndicate called the Kwong Tai Tong. An advertisement in a Chinese paper at the time gave the names of those who gave up their shares, but Wong Ka-cheung's name was not comprised in the list.

Mr. Slade—Do you suggest that that is a complete list of the partners?

Mr. Sharp—Yes, a complete list.

His Lordship—Do you put your case, then, on the ground of a holding out?

Mr. Sharp—No, my Lord. Holding out is the liability a man incurs by acting in such a way that people may reasonably suppose he is a partner. We say the man said himself he was a partner during that period of two years, and it is the best evidence of actual partnership.

Mr. Sharp, continuing, said it was also suggested by the defence that Wong Ka-cheung was a partner in a *sumshin* firm at Canton in 1893. Being a partner in one firm did not prevent his being a partner in the other. As they put it, this was a conspiracy between Wong Ka-cheung, Ma Fat-ting and the other partners in this bank to deny Wong Ka-cheung's partnership and so save his property to the defraud of the creditors. It was the old story; another of the innumerable cases that came before this Court showing the necessity for some record of Chinese partnerships. So long as business prospered there were plenty of partners. If it went wrong, somebody was put forward to bear the brunt: doubtless he was recompensed for it, and doubtless his loss was shared by the others, but the real principal partner usually disappeared. Here Ma Fat-ting had been put forward in this way, but when the jury had heard the evidence they would have no doubt that Wong Ka-cheung was a partner in the bank at the time of the bankruptcy.

The case was adjourned.

Thursday, April 5th.

#### IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

#### A DISCREPANCY.

W. Shewan and Co., sued the Sze Loong firm to recover the sum of \$172 due on a promissory note.

Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. E. J. Grist (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist), for the defendants.

Mr. Grist said it seemed there had been a considerable number of transactions between the plaintiff and the defendant, and a considerable number of promissory notes had been given by the defendant to the plaintiff.

His Lordship—Didn't this case come on in another shape or form before?

Mr. Grist—Yes, it came before your Lordship before in the form of a claim for goods sold and delivered. I am quite sure if they had set up on the promissory note I would have been entitled to judgment. It would take a considerable amount of time if we went all through the accounts before your Lordship to see where the discrepancy occurs. We say we have paid the amount in full, so it seems to me a matter entirely of account and I submit it would save a considerable amount of time if your Lordship would refer it.

His Lordship—Whom are you going to refer it to?

Mr. Grist—I would suggest the Court shroff. The notes are all in Chinese.

Mr. Kong Sing said his client was quite agreeable. He said that the money was owing, and would produce his books.

His Lordship—Very well, the matter will be referred to the shroff and the case adjourned *in die*.

#### FIRE IN DES VOEUX ROAD.

Early on April 4th the Fire Brigade, under Chief Inspector Baker, were called out to an outbreak of fire at the Wing Shun Wo medicine shop at 184, Des Voeux Road. Originating in the drying room, the flames had quickly spread to the neighbouring medicine shop, to save which the brigade directed their attention. Unfortunately they were handicapped by the insufficiency of the water supply, and had to rely on what they could obtain from the fire-float and the engine. Eventually the conflagration was extinguished, but not before damage, estimated at \$25,000 had been done to both shops. Both are insured for a total of \$65,000.

The Chinese Board of Punishment in consequence of the Edict issued last year abolishing bambooning and substituting fines, directed each of the provinces to contribute up to Tls. 100 a month from each of the principal districts out of the fines, which money would be used to make a monthly allowance to all the members of the Board. This money having now been sent up, the President's allowance is fixed at Tls. 160, the vice-President's at Tls. 120 and the subordinates from Tls. 20 to Tls. 60. Evidently some "reforms" are popular.



## CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

March 31st.

## NEW MARKETS.

There is a pond in front of the temple of the God of Fire in Ho Ku Street in the western suburbs. This pond is let out to the farmers for growing vegetables. The authorities think that the site is very suitable for the building of a market and intend to fill it up shortly. The authorities intend to build another market in the Han Yuk lane, and the Nam Hoi Magistrate has already sent a deputy to survey it.

## WORKS SUSPENDED.

The Governor's Yamen was to be completely pulled down in order to build a large college on the site for training soldiers. On the 25th inst. the work was suddenly stopped. It is reported that this was due to the fact that the Board of Revenue had refused to allow the Viceroy to contract for a foreign loan, and His Excellency has not yet been able to raise the necessary funds, which amount to over Tls. 100,000, for the construction of the college.

## CHINESE QUACKS.

It is reported that the Viceroy wants to test the knowledge of all the local Chinese doctors in an examination, as he thinks that the majority of them are not competent. Those unable to pass the examination will not be allowed to practice. The local Chinese teachers have already been examined, and none but those qualified are allowed to practice.

## COPPER COINS.

In consequence of other provinces having taken steps to forbid the importation of copper coins, the authorities here are not able to find markets for the consumption of the Kwangtung cents. They are now offering them for sale at six mace eight candareens per hundred. For large quantities the price is reduced by one candareen.

April 2nd.

## THE EMPEROR'S HEALTH.

Viceroy Shum has issued a proclamation stating that he has heard from the papers that the people wanted to hold a meeting on the 1st inst. in the shrine of Confucius to show their concern for the health of His Majesty the Emperor of China. This was a gratifying sign of loyalty. His Excellency says that he has information that the Emperor is again quite well, and attending State business as usual. He therefore issues this proclamation to allay the people's anxiety. It is reported that several thousand people went to the shrine of Confucius to attend the meeting, but dispersed as soon as they heard of the Viceroy's announcement.

## ROBBED AND FLOGGED.

On the 31st ult. a man who was passing on the Sha Ku To Tou was robbed. He shouted for assistance, but to his surprise and rage was beaten by the very people he was calling to his help, viz., a number of Chuk Pi soldiers. The people learning this were indignant; several hundred collected in front of the soldiers' station, and made a great deal of noise. They now demand a meeting of the Kai Fong to discuss the matter.

April 3rd.

## THE VICEROY AND THE MERCHANTS.

In reply to a dispatch sent by the General Chamber of Commerce, Viceroy Shum issued the following proclamation:—"I am very pleased to hear that you have already collected over \$1,800,000, being twenty per cent. of the share subscriptions, that this amount does not include shares that have been subscribed abroad; and that the \$2,000,000 received for the purpose of building the railway will be forthcoming before long. I observe that the merchants are united in the carrying out of public affairs. This will not only be beneficial to the Kwangtung Province, but also to the three provinces that are interested in it. I will immediately memorialize to the Throne that the construction and control of the railway has been handed over to the merchants, and will also forward a dispatch to the Board of Commerce requesting them to put same on record. As this is a huge undertaking, and there are many important affairs that have to be put through daily, you ought to appoint a

Chief Director. I request the nine large charitable institutions and the 72 guilds to temporarily take over the concern from the Government. Hereafter the local authorities will afford protection to the merchants and the railway, but will not interfere with its finances or its employees. Should anybody interfere with the railway the people are requested to send petitions to the local authorities, who will give their attention to the matter and will cause such offenders to be severely punished. All the taxes I have authorized to be levied, such as the Tai-Po, field and others, for the purpose of raising funds for the railway will be abolished, as you have got the necessary capital. I trust that unity amongst the merchants will steadily strengthen and that they will push matters forward so as to get all the shares subscribed. As the interest on the foreign loan will fall due on the 6th inst. and as you stated in your despatch that you are unable to touch the money subscribed as the company is not yet regularly planted, I have already instructed the Sin-Han-Kuk to prepare the amount and to pay it on the due date. When the merchants take over the concern from the Government they are to reimburse the amount. I have issued this proclamation for the information of the public."

April 4th.

## KWANGTUNG'S GOOD EXAMPLE.

The gentry and merchants of the Chekiang Province have sent a petition some time ago to the Peking Board of Commerce requesting them to memorialize the Throne to grant them the privilege of constructing and controlling the railways in their province. An Imperial edict was issued granting them their application, and a large company has now been formed to promote industrial enterprises. Canvassers for shares have been sent everywhere, and the company has advised Viceroy Shum that Expectant Taotai Li Chit-tsun has been appointed as agent of the company in Canton.

## UNOFFICIAL METHODS.

The German Consul here has sent a despatch to Viceroy Shum stating that on the 20th day of the 2nd moon he read a notice in the *Yong Shi Po* alleging that a Protestant missionary, a German subject named Kwok Yu-kin, had sent plans of ground reclaimed in front of his church which did not correspond in area to the actual ground reclaimed to the Nam-hoi magistrate for registration as church property. The Consul states that he knew nothing about the matter until he read the above news in the newspaper and requests the Viceroy to inform his subordinates that he has instructed the German missionaries not to deal direct with the officials in future, and that should any communication be sent hereafter direct to the authorities to take no notice of them and to return them to the sender. Viceroy Shum has consequently given instructions to all the officials that no letters addressed to them direct should be received in future, so as to avoid complications.

[We understand that such documents, when forwarded through the proper consular channels, often do not return from the Chinese for six months or more. When the applicant sends a Chinaman direct, and pays a "squeeze," they are stamped and registered instantly.—Ed.]

## BOYCOTT STILL IN FORCE.

The scholars of the different schools and colleges of Canton have decided to use materials other than of American make for their summer uniforms. Tailors and outfitters who shall be found to use American drills shall be boycotted.

## "CHINA MERCHANTS' ENTERPRISE.

Amongst the many properties seized belonging to Chan Tung-sang there is a fine spacious godown situated on the foreshore of Fong Chuen. The depth of the river at that place is sufficient to permit large steamers to come alongside. It is said that the China Merchants' Steamship Co. have applied to the Viceroy to rent the godown and to build a wharf there for their steamers.

## A CHINESE CEMENT WORKS.

I reported some time ago that Viceroy Shum had cancelled a lease held by Fung Wa-chuen to quarry stones from Fi-Shu-Ngan in the Fa-Yuen district on the plea that it was Government property. The stone is used to make cement and the Viceroy has decided to establish a cement factory in Pong-chuen and has

appointed directors and assistant directors to supervise the installation of the factory. The Prefect Chan Mong-tsang and Taotai Wen Tsung-yao are among those appointed by the Viceroy. A site has already been selected behind Chan Tung-sang's godown (Yew Kee).

## BIG RECLAMATION SCHEME.

Viceroy Shum proposes to reclaim the foreshore from Chan Tan Tsui to Pak-Hin-Hok (near B. & S. godowns in Honam).

## ARMED ROBBERY AT SHANGHAI.

A serious armed affray took place in Li Hongkew in the early hours of March 28th. It appears that while Native P. C. 236 was on patrol duty in the vicinity of Haubury Road he saw a crowd of about thirty natives endeavouring to break down a shop door with a large stone. Thinking there was a fire in progress he went up to see what was the matter, but his presence was not welcome, as one of the crowd turned round and struck him on the shoulder. As he was outnumbered and incapable of doing anything, the constable endeavoured to beat a retreat, but he was followed up by two ruffians, who, as he thought, struck him with a stone. When he succeeded in escaping to an alleyway he attempted to blow his whistle, but could not do so. He beckoned to a ricksha coolie who came up and blew it for him. Another native policeman then appeared on the scene and with his assistance the injured man was put into a ricksha and brought to the police station. Thence he was sent to St. Luke's Hospital, where he was found to be suffering from four stabs on the chest, arm, and shoulder. The most serious wound was that in the chest, the weapon having penetrated to the lung. Although the wound is a very serious one, it is hoped that after a few weeks' treatment in hospital the man will recover.

Meanwhile the armed ruffians had succeeded in demolishing the door of the rice shop, and after driving out the inmates, all of whom escaped without very serious injury, they made off with all the money found on the premises, which amounted only to a few thousand cash.

Armed robberies have been so frequent of late, and the police have been so unsuccessful in capturing the culprits, that it seems as though some more drastic measures were necessary. The Council might consider whether, after a certain hour, natives should not have to produce night passes, or else the police should be given authority to arrest any gangs of men who may be found acting in a suspicious manner in the thoroughfares of the Settlements. —*N. C. Daily News*.

## CHINESE IRON ORE.

The following appeared in the *Hankow Daily News* of March 23rd:—

It is not generally known outside of Hankow that there is a very large export of iron ore from Shu Wei Yao to Japan. This port is situated on the Yangtze about eighty miles down the river from Hankow. The quantity sent away last year amounted to over ninety thousand tons. The mine itself is about twenty miles from the river and connected with it by a well constructed railway. The ore is exceedingly rich and pans out sixty to sixty-five per cent. of iron of the very best quality. From reliable information which we have received there are millions of tons of this rich iron ore in sight, in addition to large quantities of lime stone. The mine is worked by the Hupeh Government under European supervision. We understand that the arrangement to sell this ore to the Japanese was made between the two Governments but we wonder why China, having such large supplies of mineral in the country does not exert herself and erect iron foundries nearer to the producing ground than the Hanyang Iron Works are. From our Peking letter received which reached us with to-day's last delivery we have information which we hope will turn out correct—that the Viceroy Chang Chi-tung has at last come forward with tangible proposals for mining laws, which should give a strong impetus to the mining industry of this province by opening up other fields as rich with ore as the one near Shu Wei Yao.



## FRENCH RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

The *N.-C. Daily News* correspondent at Mêngtze, Yunnan, writing on Feb. 17th, says:—

The work on the French railway is getting on, notwithstanding great difficulties. The Tonking part should have been finished in April, 1905, but several miles of difficult work will yet have to be done before the first train is able to run into Laokai. When I was passing through Tonking in September last a regular service was only kept up to Yenbai. The distance from this place to Laokao is about 90 miles, of which about two-thirds was then finished. It was the opinion of many people on the spot that it was a mistake to let the railway follow the river as it does. A shorter and better route was said to exist, which had the advantage of opening up country with which there is no proper communication at present. Next to the Posts and Telegraphs, no Department in Tonking is, however, so universally hated as the Travaux Publics, which is said to treat all local advice with contempt, so that much of the talk going on need not be taken too seriously. It is, however, notorious that the embankments near Yenbai were flooded last summer and will have to be raised, and that the track in some places was altogether washed away by the river. People say that every child on the spot knows how high the river rises during flood.

By far the most difficult part of the railway is from Laokai to Mêngtze, where the route chosen is the valley of the Namti, a tributary of the Red River. All the approaches to Yunnan are unhealthy, but the Namti is perhaps the most unwholesome place in Yunnan. The work is in the hands of an Italian company. The rate paid for coolies during my stay in Laokai was one dollar a day, and even then it was impossible to get anything like the adequate number. Five thousand coolies came down from Tientsin and it is estimated that 3,000 died. Most of the rest deserted. Over thirty Europeans were said to have died. It is extremely doubtful whether this part of the railway will be finished in the stipulated five years. At present very little has been done, but when Mêngtze is reached, Yunnanfu will see the first train a few months later.

The Namti embankments had also given way when I went to Mêngtze, and I had therefore to go up the Red River to Mantao; this was still the regular route, though I hear that people now go via the Namti in five or six days. It often takes as many weeks to Mantao owing to the rapids, which necessitate slow poling most of the way. Mêngtze is quite a big "port" now. The foreign residents are, however, mostly French and Italian. There is a small club, the Cercle du Commerce, with a billiard table and tennis court. This is an advantage over Yunnanfu, but the latter town is in other respects far nicer, the climate being delicious. The railway people in Yunnanfu have their quarters outside the East gate and the station is in course of construction south of the city, where the future Settlement is going to be—an unfortunate place, as it is often under water in the rainy season. All other residents live inside the walls, that is, the British and French Consuls. The latter has an assistant and an officer of the "Garde L'Indo Chine" attached to the Consulate. Then there is the C.I.M., represented by three men (one married) and the Bible Society, represented by Mr. Amundsen, a Norwegian. There is also a French doctor, an instructeur, and a postmaster. The doctor is very busy, as medical advice is given free to all Chinese, and the school is also run on practically the same lines, all part of the French policy in Yunnan. The British Consul, Mr. Wilkinson, has bought ground outside the north gate for a new Consulate, away from the city and the future Settlement as well. The spot chosen is, however, very fine. I suppose the new Consulate will have to wait until the railway comes, but the garden is already kept up by the energetic Consul, and a fine tennis lawn will no doubt be placed at the disposal of the residents this year.

Lord Curzon is not, as a rule, loved by the Britishers in Yunnan. Whatever good he may have done, he has perfectly ignored British interests in this part of the world by giving up the Lashio extension to Tali and Yunnanfu.

Now, however, something seems to have been done, and in a few years we will probably have a railway to Têngyueh. The route is being carefully surveyed. Mr. Liley is in charge of the survey, working in three parties. There is, however, a danger that nothing more will be done when Têngyueh is reached, as it is practically impossible to go on to Tali this way. The Salween and Mekong will be very difficult to cross, if not impossible. The late Mr. Litton, Consul in Têngyueh, has been working indefatigably for this railway. It is also partly due to his efforts that the present road from Têngyueh to Bhamo has been repaired and put in order for several miles on Chinese territory. It is now possible to go by cycle from Bhamo to Mansien, opposite Manyuen, on a very fine road. On the Burma side the road is also practically new, being the Mohawk Machine Kuli Kha road.

## JAPANESE IN INLAND CHINA.

A *N.-C. Daily News* correspondent at Hsinghua, Fu., writes the following complaint:—

For several years past there have been Japanese adventurers exploiting the people of this region. These men come into a neighbourhood that seems to be ripe for their schemes, by reason of clan or village quarrels, and they give out that they are starting a Japanese Church. They may rent a house, or they may not. No church services are held; no instruction is given, though the "Church" is supposed to be Buddhist. They charge an admission or enrolment fee, usually one dollar; and give a receipt, which is supposed to protect the recipient from all trouble with his neighbours or other yamen. It is needless to say that the organisation is purely political. These Japanese tramps, for they are peripatetic, take in as many fees as they can, take up whatever lawsuits their "members" may have, get out of it what money they can, and then move on to "pastures new" when the grass gets short. They have given the local magistrates much trouble, and the mandarins have complained to the higher authorities, but at last accounts they are still pursuing the same methods. The Japanese Government should put a stop to this kind of work by their nationals. It is giving Japan a very unsavoury reputation along this southern coast. Surely no-one of any nation should be permitted to organise "churches" who is not the accredited representative of some responsible society or party in his own land, and for whose good behaviour the diplomatic representative of his country can vouch.

This protest seems to smack of Trades Unionism!

## ENTERTAINING MEN OF THE FRENCH AND JAPANESE FLEETS.

Mr. J. R. M. Smith, the Hon. Treasurer of the Provisional Committee, acknowledges receipt of the following subscriptions:—

|                   |     |     |     |      |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| W. A. Dowley      | ... | ... | ... | \$50 |
| J. Orange         | ... | ... | ... | 50   |
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| C. E. Anton       | ... | ... | ... | 25   |
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| W. C. Barrett     | ... | ... | ... | 10   |
| E. Burns Pye      | ... | ... | ... | 10   |
| J. W. Crouch      | ... | ... | ... | 10   |
| W. Nicholson      | ... | ... | ... | 10   |

\$ 525

Amount previously acknowledged 1,330

\$1,905

## CANTONESE IN CANADA.

## CANADIAN CAPITAL COMING TO CHINA.

We take the following interesting report from the *Victoria Daily Times* of Feb. 19th:—

A curious example of the quickening effect of Occidental environment on the Oriental mind is afforded in negotiations which are now in progress in the city of Canton, and in which the central figure is Lim Dat, one of the most progressive, wealthy, and enterprising of the local Chinese colony. If successful these negotiations will result in the Chinese merchants of British Columbia and their countrymen in China investing a round two millions of dollars in their mother land, in building, equipping and maintaining an electric tram line between the cities of Canton and San Wu.

The project has been evolved by Lim Dat, head of the big company of Gim Fook Yuen, a firm of Chinese merchants, whose main business is that of conducting a general store and rice mills, but whose enterprise has led them to branch out into various other lines, all of which seem to have proved remunerative. Lim Dat is a fair type of the Chinaman who, coming to this province with little capital but with business acumen, has acquired wealth with such rapidity as to excite the envy of his less thrifty Caucasian neighbours. The second generation of the house of Lim promises to carry on the parental shrewdness, for the two sons, Lim Bang and Lim Yat, although less than twenty years of age, are among the shrewdest of the tradesmen in the Chinese quarter. They are not exclusively commercial in their instincts, either, for the last named, but a few months ago, approached Col. Holmes, D. O. C. of the district, and asked permission to organize a Chinese cadet corps, along approved military lines.

Lim Dat has maintained for some time a house in one of the Chinese cities, but the opportunity for an enterprise like the one now under way did not occur until a year ago, when the Chinese government revoked their railway policy and adopted one which reserves for its own people the right to form companies to carry on public works. Previously the government granted these concessions to foreigners, but this policy has not only been abrogated, but they have actually bought back from a United States firm which acquired a charter to connect by rail the provinces of Canton and Honghow, a distance of about 500 miles. The government are said to have spent several million dollars to redeem this charter, and to indemnify the holders, who had probably not spent more than half a million on the enterprise.

The present plan, upon which Lim Dat is working, and in connection with which he has been in China for two and a half months, is to build an electric railway from Canton to San Wu, connecting these populous centres, and tapping a densely peopled district. There are no physical difficulties to be overcome, of a serious nature, and it is intended to make the service a frequent one, cars running probably every fifteen minutes. This great trade is now served by an antiquated junk line plying on the river San Wu, a distance of about 90 miles. These junks are towed by a launch and carry both passengers and freight. It takes about 14 hours for the trip, but the extent of the traffic may be gathered from the fact that each of the 22 junks employed carries over 200 people daily. The average charge per head was thirty cents, where a tram line will handle them for twenty cents, and the latter will convey them between the two cities in three hours where the junks required 14 for the trip. The advantages of the electric over any steam system can be appreciated in a country where coal costs \$10 a ton. The power will be obtained from a splendid stream fed from the Quai Tong Shun range of mountains, which lies about two-thirds of the distance from Canton to its neighbour city.

Each car will be equipped with four 50 horse-power motors, and will be built somewhat on the principle of the summer observation cars so well known on this continent. This is rendered possible by the warm weather which prevails in that portion of China.

The trucks for these cars will probably be built in British Columbia, but the wooden work will in all probability be placed in China, where labour is cheaper. The supplies



will, it is expected, be bought in Canada, unless the boycott against United States goods is raised before that time. A few electricians may be taken from this province, but the majority will be obtained from among the Chinese in Hongkong, who have received training in electric work. It is found better to employ the Oriental, as the whites do not seem to work amicably with the Chinese.

The stock will practically all be subscribed for in British Columbia, the merchants in this province standing ready to put up a large portion of the two million dollars necessary. White stockholders will not be allowed in the company, as their presence in the company would expose the latter to the forfeiture of their charter.

It is also intended to seek from the city of Canton a concession of the light and power privileges. The streets there are so narrow that some difficulty would be experienced in attempting to secure the franchise for a city street railway system, although this may be sought later.

The population of Canton is about two millions, and of San Wu about half a million people.

In 1895 Lim Dat perfected and applied for a patent on an improved device for electric rice mill machinery—the first patent to be issued to a Chinaman in British North America.

### SHANGHAI AND HONGKEW WHARF CO., LTD.

The following report of the speech of the Chairman at the annual general meeting of the Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co., Ltd., held at Shanghai on March 27th, includes all the material facts. The year under review has been the most prosperous the Company has yet enjoyed, the godowns have been filled with cargo and our storage accommodation has not only been taxed to the utmost, but, to our great regret, we have had to turn business away for want of space. I would here remind you, gentlemen, that our past experience has been that a year of plenty is followed by a year or more of leanness, and it would almost appear impossible, even making every allowance for increased requirements supplied from this distributing centre, and the undoubted expanding trade of the place, that the volume of the merchandise imported in 1905 can be maintained throughout the year 1906. With these facts before them it has been a difficult matter for your Directors to determine what would be a safe sum to expend on increased godown accommodation, and after mature consideration a building programme has been sanctioned, entailing an expenditure of close on five lacs of taels. To provide the necessary funds the general agents trust that there will be a renewed demand for debentures of the Company, and in the meantime they have agreed to advance the money required. In September last Shanghai had the misfortune to be visited by a typhoon, and, due to a combination of causes, the water in the river rose to an unprecedented extent, flooding not only the godowns along the bank but also those in the heart of the Settlement. Your property suffered considerable damage, and to our great regret the contents of many godowns also suffered, causing loss to our constituents. To, as far as in our power lies, obviate the recurrence of a similar loss, we are having, as opportunity allows, the floors of all godowns raised to a level considerably over that recorded in September last at the various wharves. Turning to the accounts, the balance of working account for the year is Tls. 638,685.49, an increase of Tls. 234,193.35 over that of the year 1902 which previously constituted a record of the Company. But while our earnings show a satisfactory expansion, our expenditure grows even more rapidly; during the last few years taxes have been more than quadrupled, wages have more than doubled and new buildings cost more. Property account has been increased by Tls. 115,526.82 for additions during the year. Repairs account. We started 1905 with Tls. 59,000 at credit of this account, and this sum has been reduced during the year to Tls. 734.03. The principal item of expenditure has been the renewal of over 6.0 feet of Footing—Wharf. A certain amount has been expended

in the raising of floors of godowns above flood level; we estimate that an additional Tls. 50,000 will require to be spent to complete this work and have further to make provision for our annual repairs. This, gentlemen, explain why we ask you to place to the credit of this account Tls. 100,000, and I trust you will approve our recommendation. Building Reserve. Our auditors draw attention to the name of this account which they consider misleading, as the cost of new buildings cannot properly be charged to it; we therefore propose, with your sanction, that for the future it appear in the balance sheet as reserve fund.

### THE SHANGHAI WATERWORKS CO., LTD.

At the annual meeting of shareholders in the Shanghai Waterworks Company, held on March 28th, Mr. A. McLeod presided. He said, in part, the report and accounts for the past year have been in your hands for some days and I presume you will consent to take them as read. With regard to the accounts I think you will agree with your Directors that they exhibit a very satisfactory result for the year's operations, the gross revenue for 1905 showing an increase of Tls. 36,000 over that of 1904, but although our income shows a really satisfactory advance it is on the other hand to be taken into consideration that our working expenses have also been heavier, and that from circumstances over which the directors have practically no control. On the expenditure side of our working account, salaries, wages, repairs to mains and works, etc., show an increase of Tls. 10,000, coils Tls. 2,000, general charges Tls. 1,000, legal expenses Tls. 1,200, leaving a net balance in favour of 1905 of about Tls. 20,000 over that of the previous year. Our profit and loss account shows a credit balance of Tls. 210,304.61 as against Tls. 151,737.11 in 1904, which is a gratifying increase on the working of the company's business for the past year, leaving the former sum now at the disposal of the directors for appropriation.—Balance Sheet. You will notice some important alterations in the figures in this account as compared with those of 1904. Our capital has been increased from 7,200 shares to 8,175, by the issue to the Municipal Council of 975 shares gratis, in the terms of our new agreement, and as you are all aware the first call of £5 per share on the authorised issue of 8,175 new shares has been made and has produced Tls. 256,361.08, which appears under the heading of liabilities. On the credit side of the account you will notice the large sum of Tls. 359,587.60 expended on the purchase of real estate, extensions of works, mains, plant, etc., necessitated by our rapidly increasing business, while the issue of 975 shares to the Council, which is practically the price paid for our franchise, figures at Tls. 135,898.36. You will see from the report that the directors recommend the following appropriation of the balance at credit of profit and loss account, and they trust you will approve of same:—

|   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| To payment of a final dividend of 37.6                      | Tls.                   |
| per share at ex. 2/9½                                       | 85,645.75              |
| To payment of 6 months dividend=                            |                        |
| 26/3 at 2/9½ per share upon the                             |                        |
| S. M. C.'s 975 shares                                       | 9,066.42               |
| To transfer to Reserve Fund (increasing it to Tls. 190,000) | 20,000.00              |
| To carry forward to New Account                             | 85,592.44              |
|   | <b>Tls. 210,304.61</b> |

I might mention that we have considered it prudent to carry forward a much larger sum than usual, in view of the fact that we shall have to pay dividends during 1906 upon an increased capital, and though we hope to see our revenue expand, we shall require some assistance from the earnings of 1905, in order to maintain the rate you have been accustomed to receive during the past few years.

The plague return for the three months ending March 31st gives 100 cases, 97 deaths. In the 43 hours succeeding that report, there were five more cases, four of them fatal. One of last week's 27 cases was a European. During the week there were twelve cases of smallpox, all Chinese. Eleven of the twelve died.

### REMINISCENCES OF AN OLD CHINA HAND.

Sir Thomas Sutherland, at the London inspection of the s.s. *Devanha* said:—Coming down here to-day I was asked what the "Devanha" meant. "Devanha" was the ancient name given to the locality we now speak of as Aberdeen by the Roman centurions who arrived at that northern capital. They found they had got far enough North, and they returned South. That is an example which has since been followed by a good many people of that neighbourhood (laughter).

Sir Thomas Sutherland can look back to the time when the mail service to China was not carried on by ships of 8,000 tons, but ships of less than 800 tons, which was about the average size of the vessels engaged in the mail service towards China when he was a youngster. Looking back to that time, he remarked recently, one cannot help feeling some amount of envy regarding the rates of freight and rates of passage money which were paid in those days. The rates of freight from China on silk, for instance, amounted to £24 a ton. Opium was carried from India to China at about £18 a ton, and silver was carried at the low rate of 2½ per cent. between London and Hongkong (laughter). It is within my recollection that on one occasion I loaded a small vessel of 650 tons with a freight which earned the P. & O. Company £30,000. It is another reminiscence of the same period that I have known a P. & O. captain come and protest against his ship being chiefly loaded with silver freight. The passage money was on a par with the freight in those days. You could not be conveyed from London to Hongkong for less than £15, and, at the then rate of exchange, the passage money home was 630 taels, or £20 sterling. I am afraid we shall never see those days again. I hope that half a century hence the chairman of the P. & O. Company will be able to speak of a new *Devanha* which will be the treble the size of the ship on board of which we are to-day. I recollect that at the time of which I have been speaking the mails were not so punctual in arriving at Hongkong as they are to-day. A delay of a day or two or three days was looked upon as a perfectly natural thing, and a delay of even a week sometimes happened. Now, however, all that is changed.

### A CHINESE TRAIN DE LUXE.

The *Hankow Daily News* of March 24th says:—On Thursday afternoon a very interesting trial of the "Train de Luxe" which is intended to run between Peking and Hankow and vice versa on the Lu-Han Railway, took place. A number of visitors were invited and the trial was made with the most satisfactory results. The distance run was from the ten kilometre station to Hankow; the airbrakes were tested several times and acted splendidly. The train was composed of engine, a twenty ton goods car, fully loaded, a third-class Chinese open car, a luggage van and sleeping car, a dining car, two first-class sleeping cars, a luggage van and postal car combined, a third-class carriage and a twenty ton goods truck. The sleeping arrangements on both the first and second-class carriages differ from the American Pullman car system, and much resemble, in arrangements, those on the Trans-Siberian Railway. Each compartment is fitted with four bunks or beds, the upper bunks, however, can be taken down and the compartment made into one or two. The cars are comfortably and substantially made, and with a well-appointed dining car attached to the train, passengers travelling between Hankow and Peking will enjoy every luxury. There is electric light in the first-class carriages and the dining car. In fact the whole train is fitted out in first-class European style.

The train was intended to leave Hankow for Peking yesterday empty and after the inspection by the Chinese officials there, the "Train de Luxe" will leave Peking on its first regular journey with passengers, etc., about 15th April, after which there will be a regular weekly service from either end which is expected to complete the distance in thirty-six hours.



The usual daily train will commence carrying cargo, etc., on the 1st April, and is timed to do the journey from Hankow to Peking and the other way in three days instead of four. The Yellow River bridge is found to be a substantial piece of work and all trains will now pass over it.

### HONGKONG VOLUNTEER RIFLE CLUB.

1. CORPS CHAMPIONSHIP.—Open to all members of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps. Ranges.—200, 500 and 600 yds. No. of shots—seven at each. Entrance fee \$1.00. Cup to be won two years in succession before becoming the property of the winner. Second and third prizes. Presented.

2. RIFLE HANDICAP.—Open to members of the Hongkong Volunteer Rifle Club and instructors only. Distance 200 yards. No. of shots—seven. Entrance fee 50 cents. Five prizes value 80 per cent. of the entries.

3. RIFLE HANDICAP.—Open to members of the Hongkong Volunteer Rifle Club and instructors only. Distance 500 yards. No. of shots—seven. Entrance fee 50 cents. Five prizes value 80 per cent. of the entries.

4. RIFLE HANDICAP.—Open to members of the Hongkong Volunteer Rifle Club and instructors only. Distance 600 yards. No. of shots—seven. Entrance fee 50 cents. Five prizes value 80 per cent. of the entries.

5. RIFLE AGGREGATE.—Net. For competitors whose respective scores in Nos. 2, 3 and 4 make up the highest aggregate. Entrance fee 50 cents. Two prizes. Presented.

6. RIFLE AGGREGATE.—Handicap.—For Competitors whose respective scores including handicap in Nos. 2, 3 and 4 make up the highest aggregate. Entrance fee 50 cents. Three prizes. Presented.

7. OFFICERS ONLY—HANDICAP.—Open to members of the Hongkong Volunteer Rifle Club only. Distances 200, 500 and 600 yards. No. of shots—seven at each range. Entrance fee 50 cents. One prize. Presented. To be shot simultaneously with Nos. 2, 3 and 4.

8. DISAPPEARING TARGET.—Net. Open to members of the Hongkong Volunteer Rifle Club only. Distance 500 yards. No. of shots—seven. No sighting shot allowed. Magazine to be used. Target exposed for 45 seconds only. Entrance fee 50 cents. Three prizes. 80 per cent. of entries.

9. ALL COMERS.—Competitions for All Comers. British only. Limited to Army, Navy, Police, Volunteer Reserves. Rifles or Carbines. Will take place simultaneously with the foregoing events at Ranges 200, 500 and 600 yards. No. of shots—seven at each range. Unlimited entries. Fees 30 cents per ticket. Three Prizes at each range value 60 per cent. of tickets sold.

10. ALL COMERS' AGGREGATE.—For Competitors whose respective scores at each range in No. 9 make up the highest aggregate. Entrance fee \$1.00. Two prizes. Presented.

11. LADIES' NOMINATION.—Net Score.—Open to ladies or members of the Hongkong Volunteer Rifle Club and instructors nominated by a lady resident in the Colony and over 16 years of age. No lady to nominate more than one representative and no member to shoot for more than one lady. Distance 300 yards. No. of shots—five. Entrance fee 50 cents. Prizes presented.

12. CONSOLATION PRIZE.—Net Score.—Open to members of the Hongkong Volunteer Rifle Club only who have not won a prize at this Meeting. Distance 300 yards. No. of shots—seven. No entrance fee. One prize. Presented.

Entries for all events except Nos. 9, 10, 11 and 12 close on Monday next.

The members of Right Half No. 2 Company H. K. V. A. had their annual dinner at the Hongkong Hotel on Saturday evening under the presidency of Captain Armstrong, and with Lieut. Northcote in the vice-chair. A pleasant time was spent with song and sentiment. Major Pritchard, in acknowledging the toast of his health, said the volunteer year just closed had been very satisfactory. The corps numbered 274 at present, but he hoped soon to see it at full strength, 400.

### HONGKONG AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB.

#### "LADY HUNTWORTH'S EXPERIMENT."

It is a temptation to say that those responsible for the production of "Lady Huntworth's Experiment" on the 31st March had been moved by a desire to show the other members of the A. D. C. "how to do it." In many respects the performance was of quite a higher order than those we have been given in the last few years. The little play was well chosen, and its "mounting" was an object lesson in "preserving the unities": the superfluity common on such occasions was conspicuously absent. There was no exaggeration of dress, either; and with regard to the acting, we can only say that it was of a uniform excellence of which the members of the cast have the greatest reason to be proud. Briefly, the story is this. Captain Dorvaston late of the Bengal Cavalry, is staying with the Rev. Audley Pillenger, vicar of Stillford, and his sister. He is, by request of a deceased parent, engaged to marry their niece, Lucy, whom he does not love, and who is in love with the curate, the Rev. Henry Thorsby. The cook at the vicarage, whose manifest superiority has enslaved all the men in the house, from the vicar down to Gandy, his butler, turns out to be Lady Huntworth, recently divorced, by her own desire, although at the suit of her dissolute husband, who happens to be hiding in the village from his duns. His lordship, calling himself Mr. Rayll, makes Captain Dorvaston's acquaintance at the inn, and thus subsequently discovers his late wife. He knows that she has since come into a fortune, and asks her to return to him and re-marry him. She and Captain Dorvaston have a tenderness for each other, and when Lucy elopes with the curate, and Lord Huntworth is exposed, they come together at Brussels. The necessary complications are increased by the philandering of the Vicar and the Captain in the cook's kitchen, where Miss Hannah, the Vicar's maiden sister, is shocked to find the gallant Captain concealed in the broom cupboard. There are three scenes, the garden, the kitchen, and the ante-room between the church and the vicarage. Lt.-Com. Lloyd Thomas, R. N., as the Captain was well fitted, and if he had not on several occasions stood in such evident need of the prompter's services, would have scored a distinct success. Mr. Gaster as the Vicar seemed a little nervous at the outset, but before long developed a most convincing personification of the part. Mr. L. J. C. Anderson as the curate hardly made full use of his limited opportunities, especially in view of the fact that no actor could desire a more able or charming coadjutor than was Miss E. Rowe as Lucy. Her "lines" were apparently word-perfect, and her "business" altogether satisfactory. She was charmingly natural throughout, and never gave the audience any excuse to remember that it was playacting. To her and to Mr. H. W. Looker as the dissolute peer we are inclined to accord the laurels of the evening. Mr. Looker was a revelation. His make-up, a little startling at first, was amply accounted for by the fact that he was supposed to be just recovering from a malady which made him see non-existent spiders. His speeches were always "pat" to time, and his manner of delivery and his acting were really clever; especially when we know that in private life his character is the absolute antithesis of the one he had to portray. A recent announcement added to the amusement with which Lord Huntworth's unsympathetic obiter dicta on marriage were received. Mr. P. Tester as the man servant was Mr. Tester—for those who have had opportunity to watch him in his *métier*, further comment is unnecessary. Mr. R. Whitmore as a newspaper boy was a mere exorcism on the play; he had practically nothing to do, but did that nothing well. Mrs. Painter as the vicar's sister was very good, and her very amusing imitation of a truly proper and unjustifiably shocked spinster earned applause. Mrs. John Hastings as Kexiah, the maid servant, made more than the most of somewhat minor opportunities, and acted on the proverb that what is worth doing is worth doing well. Her part, in dress, make-up, speech and mannerism, was certainly well done. We have been taking the names in the order as printed,

and this brings us now to Mrs. M. W. Slade who played the chief feminine character, the Lady Cook. Several times, perhaps caused by the Captain's lapses of memory, which she was heard to restore, her own lines were not forthcoming with the requisite glibness; and of course the impression of her work suffers. Hers was a difficult, because unnatural, part to play, and while taking it section by section, her ability was recognised and applauded, the interpretation throughout did not seem quite consistent. The author's idea seemed to be that the new cook ruled the house because of her culinary powers and her manifest sweetness and superior character, which lifted her above censure. But in the opening scene, Mrs. Slade allowed us to understand that she was a wilfully defiant and disobedient servant, which the disguised Lady Huntworth scarcely was. The audience, too, was perhaps too much in her thoughts. Future performances will establish her talent if all the members get the words, and cues, and if she herself will address the other characters instead of the audience.

Mr. E. W. Mitchell was responsible for the stage management. Between the acts, the "Calcutta String Band" played very fair music, although there might have been more volume.

### R.G.A. SPORTS.

The Royal Garrison Artillery held the first of two days of sport on the Hongkong Football Club's ground at Happy Valley on April 5th, when the minor events and heats were decided. There was a large number in attendance, and the weather was all that could be desired. The dullness of the match was relieved with bunting, while light and strong refreshments were served in the many booths. The events were kept well up to time, the committee responsible for the management being—Captain F. S. Butcher, R.G.A., president, Captain C. G. Varaker, Lieut. R. S. Lucy, Lieut. H. P. Garwood, Lieut. G. H. W. Dobbins, 2nd Lieut. E. Cumming, Subadar Muhammad Ali, Mr. Gr. (W. O.) F. J. Champion, Regt. Sergt.-Major Tuohy, C. S. M. (I. G.) Eldred, Mr. Gr. Gainer, Sergt. Ballis and Sergt. Taylor.

Numerous entries were received for the long jumping competition, which was won by Sergeant Bayless, H.K.S.B., with Br. Kerrick of the 88th Co. second, and Gr. Cochrane of the same Co. third. The distance covered was about 17 feet. The heats in the wheel race were won by Gra. McIntyre, Brown and Bishop, who will compete for a win to-day. The hurdle race, which will also be run off to-day, is open to Sergeant Bayless, Gra. Canter, Brotherton, Brown, Stevens and Br. Kerrick. The half mile flat race, open to members of the R.G.A. only, was won by Br. Hard, with Gr. Cleese second, and Gr. Andrews, third; time 2.13½. Br. Hard was again successful in the mile, Gr. Andrews being second, and Gr. Lee third. In the final of the sack race Gr. Walker was first, Gr. Welling second and Gr. Brown third. Putting the weight proved an item of interest, and Gr. Wilks' put of 32ft. 10 inches won the first prize; Gr. Bishop took the second, and Gr. Butler the third. The quarter mile flat race was covered in 1.6½ secs, the runners passing the tape in the following order—Stevens, 1; Cleese, 2; Wilks, 3. The honour of a win in the veterans' race fell to Gr. Brown, Gr. Bailey being second and Gr. Burke third. The half mile open to native regiments of the Garrison was won by Jhiner Singh, with Mahomed Khan second and Jabil Khan third. The sack fight will be decided to-day, when Cambridge's team of ten picked men closes in combat with the ten under Brown. The final of the 100 yards race was also to be run off, the starters being Stevens, Brown, Bayless, Andrews, H. Brown and Canter. Some strong pulls were witnessed in the tug-of-war contests, and the one between the 3d and 88th Co's R.G.A., which is to take place this afternoon, should prove an interesting event.

To-day is the principal day of the sports, and judging from yesterday's attendance they promise to be well patronised. The band of the West Kent Regiment will play selections of music during the afternoon.



## COMMERCIAL.

## SILK.

CANTON, 24th March, 1906.—Long-reels.—A very fair business ruled at the beginning of the fortnight, enabling holders to maintain their high rates; at the close there are willing sellers of spot cargo, though concessions are not so easily obtainable for forward contracts in new silk. Fine sizes and market cargo 11/13, 13/15, 14/18 are still in good demand. From sales made we quote: Fres. Wing Cheng Sing 11/13 at \$930, Kun Wa Lun 9/11 at \$930, On Wo Hing 9/11 at \$920, Wah Fong 9/11 at \$920, Wing Po Cheong 10/12 at \$900, Kai Cheong Loong 10/12 at \$885, King Seng 11/13, 13/15 at \$900, Nam Seng 13/15 at \$875, Wa Lun Cheong 16/18 at \$825, Best 2me. ordre 18/22 at \$770 to \$780, Best 3me. ordre 11/13, 13/15, 14/18 at from \$750 to \$760. Short-reels have attracted a good share of attention at increasing prices, especially in the higher grades. Sales include Hau King Lun at \$875. Waste Silk.—During the first week holders in general steadily held their ground; now they are becoming more reasonable, and the easier rates seem to attract some little business at the close. Silk at Canton:—900 bales.

Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Silk Circular dated Shanghai, 28th March, 1906, states:—The Home markets are firm, Gold Killing is quoted in London at 12/9. Raw Silks.—There has been very little inquiry for Tsatlees, and we only hear of one transaction. Yellow Silks.—Very little doing—a sale of Mienyang S. C. 1 is recorded at Tls. 360. Hand Filatures.—There has been several enquiries from America during the past week for Crack Chops and Shanghai Reels, and a settlement of Mayhun Yees & Sun Tien Changs is recorded on the basis of Tls. 731 for Blue Dragon Extra. Lower grade Filatures have also been in some demand. Steam Filatures.—Are neglected. Waste Silks.—Very little business doing. Gun Wastes are in small supply and held for prices above buyers' ideas. Tussah Waste is held for Tls. 24 for Filature 50.50 and Tls. 23 for Newchwang Cargo, but buyers offer Tls. 1-1½ less and no business has been done.

## SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 4th April.—Some demand having come forward, the prices are advancing.

|                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Shekloong, No. 1, White..... | \$8.50 to \$8.55 per cwt. |
| Do. " 2, White.....          | 7.30 to 7.35 "            |
| Do. " 1, Brown.....          | 6.40 to 6.45 "            |
| Do. " 2, Brown.....          | 5.35 to 5.40 "            |
| Swatow, No. 1, White.....    | 8.05 to 8.10 "            |
| Do. " 2, White.....          | 7.20 to 7.25 "            |
| Do. " 1, Brown.....          | 6.05 to 6.01 "            |
| Do. " 2, Brown.....          | 5.65 to 5.70 "            |
| Foochow Sugar Candy.....     | 10.60 to 10.65 "          |
| Shekloong do.....            | 9.70 to 9.80 "            |

## RICE.

HONGKONG, 4th April.—The prices are advancing, holders being firm.

|                                      |                  |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Saigon, Ordinary.....                | \$2.90 to \$2.95 |
| " Round, good quality.....           | 3.70 to 3.75     |
| " Long.....                          | 3.80 to 3.85     |
| Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2..... | 3.00 to 3.05     |
| " Garden, " No. 1.....               | 3.85 to 3.90     |
| " White.....                         | 4.05 to 4.10     |
| " Fine Cargo.....                    | 4.30 to 4.35     |

## OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 4th April.

Quotations are:—Allowance net to 1 catty.

|                           |                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Malwa New.....            | \$970 to — per picul.  |
| Malwa Old.....            | \$1020 to — do.        |
| Malwa Older.....          | \$1070 to — do.        |
| Malwa Very Old.....       | \$1130 to — do.        |
| Persian Fine Quality..... | \$1000 to — do.        |
| Persian Extra Fine.....   | \$1050 to — do.        |
| Patna New.....            | \$882½ to — per chest. |
| Patna Old.....            | \$862½ to — do.        |
| Benares New.....          | \$825 to — do.         |
| Benares Old.....          | — to — do.             |

## COAL.

Messrs. Hughes and Hough, in their Coal Report of 5th April, state that 13 steamers are expected at Hongkong with a total of 51,400 tons of coal. Since March 23rd, 17 steamers have arrived with a total of 65,200 tons of coal.

Quotations:—

|                  |                                    |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| Cardiff.....     | \$15.00 ex-ship, nominal.          |
| Australian.....  | \$9.50 to \$10.25 ex-ship, steady. |
| Yubari Lump..... | \$12.00 nominal.                   |
| Miki Lump.....   | \$12.00 steady.                    |
| Moji Lump.....   | \$9.00 to \$10.00 ex-ship, steady. |
| Akaike.....      | \$9.75 to \$10.00 steady.          |
| Bengal.....      | \$9.00 to \$9.75 nominal.          |

## RAW COTTON

HONGKONG, 6th April.—Fair business at a slight rise. Stock about 800 bales.

|                                      |                               |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bombay.....                          | \$18.00 to \$20.00 per picul. |
| Bengal (New), Rangoon and Dacca..... | 21.00 to 24.00 "              |
| Shanghai and Japanese.....           | 26.00 to 27.50 "              |
| Tungchow and Ningpo.....             | 26.00 to 27.50 "              |

Reported sales 300 bales.

## YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee in his report, dated Hongkong 6th April, says:—Business continues in the same dull unsatisfactory state as previously advised. Settlements are again on a very limited scale and confined to urgent requirements, the chief feature of the interval being the small inquiry for superior grades of No. 20s for the Northern markets. Values have further receded \$1 to \$3 per bale and still no abatement in the downward course is apparent. Although exports to Shanghai during the interval have been large there is no change in our estimate of stocks, the recent arrivals being about the same as the off-take. Bombay is reported weak and declining.

Sales of the fortnight aggregate 2,847 bales, arrivals amount to 15,184, unsold stock estimated at 83,000, and sold but uncleared goods in second hands at 65,000 bales.

Local Manufacture:—No business is reported.

Japanese Yarn:—A single small sale of 30 bales No. 10s Kanegafuchi at \$130 is reported.

Raw Cotton:—Cotton is barely steady with a very small off-take. The business of the interval includes a sale of 240 bales Bengal at \$22 to \$23, and of 110 bales Thoonghow at \$24 to \$25, with an estimated stock of 350 bales Indian and 195 China cotton. Quotations are \$20 to \$23½ Indian, and \$22 to \$25 China.

Exchange on India has fluctuated slightly and closes to-day at Rs. 153½ for T/T and Rs. 153½ for Post. On Shanghai 71½ and on Japan 100.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinings is reported from Shanghai during the three weeks ended the 1st ultimo, viz:—

Indian:—Market steady for No. 2's, but weaker for the lower counts by 2 to 3 Taels, sales aggregating 7,800 bales with an estimated stock of 73,000.

Japanese:—The firmness of holders is checking business, total sales 2,100 bales on the basis of Tls. 92½ to 99½ for No. 18s, and Tls. 106½ to 108½ for No. 20s, closing weak.

Local:—Very firm, but no fresh business to report.

## PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s latest Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai, 29th March, 1906, states:—The week under review cannot be called a satisfactory one inasmuch as nothing has occurred to elucidate the problem now before the trade as to how to deal with the enormous conglomeration of stocks of present congregated here. Supplies still continue coming in faster than they go out, steamers are lying in the stream for days unable to discharge their cargoes, and the Godowns are so crowded it takes three or four times the trouble and time to find the goods in the first place and when found, by a new regulation, they have to be taken to the Customs Jetty for examination before re-exportation, causing more delay in shipping and consequent loss of interest, and very frequently market as well. In the meanwhile the Northern buyers appear to be taking advantage of this congestion to depress the market here in order to meet their own ends, and it is shrewdly suspected that it was with this object shipments to the North have so far been kept on such a moderate scale. And yet in the face of all this telegrams are being received by almost every import house to the effect that their competitors are buying largely in Manchester for this market, the orders being for November, December and January shipment. It really seems incredible that this can be the case, and free enquiries amongst the leading importers here only elicits the query "do we look such fools?" By a strange concatenation of fortuitous circumstances, to use a famous expression, the market here has been able to withstand in a remarkable manner, during the past year or two, the effects of the most reckless overtrading this Port has ever known. Such palpable luck—it was nothing else—cannot last much longer, and it certainly looks now that the inevitable reaction has set in. Six months hence will be quite early enough to begin to think of business for next year, if the trade is ever to be put on a stable basis again. Then something will be known of the new Cotton Crop, and by that time also the effect of the mischievous meddling of the

present British Government in South Africa will be seen in the relative prices of Gold and Silver, two most vital factors in this trade, the future course of which it is utterly impossible to foretell. A feature of the present situation which may be overlooked is the fact that although the dealers are paying up with considerable freedom for goods they had bought or indented for, and which they find they can do on favorable terms owing to lower rate of interest in native money market, the goods are not being cleared for consumption, but remain here on storage. This in itself is not very promising and should restrain importers from buying too far ahead. There are rumours that the Newchwang market is slowly improving, but nothing very definite is known yet, and fresh orders to ship are coming down very slowly. All the markets up North are paying attention, to a greater extent than formerly, to Fancy Dyed and Printed goods, and even Hankow is taking more interest in them, through showing the same apathy for Grey and White makes. The Korean market is reported as quite stagnant. Beyond what we have written above regarding the Manchester market there is little to say. Fortunately for this market the price of Cotton is keeping up, 6.04d. being the last Liverpool quotation for Mid American, that for Egyptian remaining the same as last quoted, 9½d. There is still no fresh news from New York concerning the American market. The Yarn market is dull and drooping for the lower count of Indian owing to the continued absence of enquiry from the Northern markets, though lately Tientsin buyers have been somewhat attracted by the low prices ruling, there being quite an abnormally large difference between the quotations for Nos. 10s. and 20s. Japanese and Local Spinings are quiet. Native Cotton was inclined to droop but the decline has been arrested by a demand for Japan.

## MISCELLANEOUS EXPORT.

Per M. M. steamer Tonkin, sailed on the 3rd April. For Marseilles:—345 bales raw silk, 202 bales waste silk, 4 cases silk piece goods, 92 cases human hair, 2 cases feather, 29 cases provisions, 40 cases joss stick, 20 cases ylang ylang oil, 10 cases hats. For Lyons:—296 bales raw silk, 5 bales waste silk. For Milan:—45 bales raw silk. For Manchester:—25 bales waste silk. For Port Said:—3 cases fans. For Suez:—7 cases fans.

## EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 6th April.

## ON LONDON.—

|                                    |        |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Telegraphic Transfer.....          | 2/ 1/2 |
| Bank Bills on demand.....          | 2/ 0/4 |
| Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight..... | 2/ 0/4 |

## ON LONDON.—

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Bank Bills at 4 months' sight.....      | 2/ 1/2 |
| Credits at 4 months' sight.....         | 2/ 1/2 |
| Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight..... | 2/ 1/2 |

## ON PARIS.—

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Bank Bills, on demand.....   | 257 |
| Credits 4 months' sight..... | 261 |

## ON GERMANY.—

|                |      |
|----------------|------|
| On demand..... | 209½ |
|----------------|------|

## ON NEW YORK.—

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Bank Bills, on demand.....   | 49½ |
| Credits, 60 days' sight..... | 50½ |

## ON BOMBAY.—

|                           |      |
|---------------------------|------|
| Telegraphic Transfer..... | 153½ |
| Bank, on demand.....      | 153½ |

## ON CALCUTTA.—

|                           |      |
|---------------------------|------|
| Telegraphic Transfer..... | 153½ |
| Bank, on demand.....      | 153½ |

## ON SHANGHAI.—

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Bank, at sight.....          | 71½ |
| Private, 30 days' sight..... | 72½ |

## ON YOKOHAMA.—

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| On demand..... | 100 |
|----------------|-----|

## ON MANILA.—

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| On demand..... | 99½ |
|----------------|-----|

## ON SINGAPORE.—

|                |         |
|----------------|---------|
| On demand..... | 15 p.m. |
|----------------|---------|

## ON BATAVIA.—

|                |      |
|----------------|------|
| On demand..... | 123½ |
|----------------|------|

## ON HAIPHONG.—

|                |         |
|----------------|---------|
| On demand..... | 3½ p.m. |
|----------------|---------|

## ON SAIGON.—

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| On demand..... | 3 p.m. |
|----------------|--------|

## ON BANGKOK.—

|                |    |
|----------------|----|
| On demand..... | 62 |
|----------------|----|

## SOME FIGURES, Bank's Buying Rate.....

|        |
|--------|
| \$9.75 |
|--------|

## GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael.....

|         |
|---------|
| \$51.00 |
|---------|

## BAR SILVER, per oz.....

|     |
|-----|
| 29½ |
|-----|

## FREIGHTS.

Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Report, dated the 20th March, 1906, states:—The amount of cargo moving homeward has slightly increased since our last. Coastwise:—This market shows a slight improvement, and rates from Japan remain steady at \$1.50 per ton. There is more enquiry also from the time charterers, a sure sign of a better market.



## SHARE REPORTS.

**HONGKONG, 6th April, 1906.**—The improvement reported in our last has continued, and a fair business has been transacted, while rates have maintained and in many cases improved their position. Many of our chief stocks, which have practically been dormant for some time, have been again dealt in, and incipient further improvement in the market is quite noticeable at the time of closing.

**BANKS.**—Hongkong and Shanghai, with an improvement in the London rate to £300, have ruled firmer and a fair number of shares have changed hands at \$860, the market closing steady at that rate. A fair number of local sales have been put through, and several small lots have been purchased for Shanghai account. Nationals continue in demand at \$40, but shares remain very scarce; it is doubtful, however, whether buyers would spring the rate if any shares were forthcoming.

**MARINE INSURANCES.**—Unions have ruled quiet with small sellers at \$790, and we have no sales to report. China Traders have changed hands at \$97 in small lots, but the stock *per se*, since the 31st ultimo, is practically out of the market and only a few small lots which have not been absorbed by the amalgamation remain for treatment. Cantons have been negotiated in small lots at \$355, but at time of closing more shares are available at that rate, and the market closes inactive. North China's remain unchanged and without business. Yangtszes have improved to Tls. 190.

**FIRE INSURANCES.**—Hongkongs have changed hands and close steady to strong at \$300 with a small demand and no sellers. Chinas continue in a small demand at \$86 with a few sales.

**SHIPPING.**—Hongkong, Canton and Macao continue about the same with likely buyers at \$214 and sellers at \$25; we have no sales to report. Indos have continued in demand at \$93 and \$94 with a few sales; shares, however, appear to be scarce, and the small demand does not meet with a ready supply. We have nothing else to report under this heading.

**REFINERIES.**—China Sugars. Sales are reported at \$182 but the market closes no better than \$180. Luzons remain weak and without business at \$25.

**MINING.**—We have nothing to report under this heading.

**DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.**—The improvement reported in our last has continued, and we have to report a further substantial rise in the rate. After further sales in the early part of the week at \$163 and \$164, a demand at a point or so higher not being met, the rate quickly rose to \$168 and later to \$170, at which latter rate a fair number of shares changed hands. The market closes steady at \$170 with but few shares available to meet any demand which is likely to crop up. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have again come into favour, after a period of comparative inaction, on rumours of increased activity on the proposed Hongkong-Canton railway, and after sales at \$100 and \$101 the rate rose to \$102 and \$103 at both of which latter rates a fair number of shares changed hands; the market closes firm with buyers at \$103 and no sellers except at an advance. New Amoy Docks have been enquired for at \$17 but we have not heard of the demand having been met. Farnham's have ruled steady in Shanghai at Tls. 118; we have no local business to report in the stock. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves have improved in Shanghai to Tls. 200, but we have no local business to report.

**LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.**—Hongkong Lands changed hands in the early part of the week at \$114 and \$115 and later with an unsatisfied small demand at \$116, the market closing steady at the last named rate. Kowloon Lands have found further buyers at \$39 and more shares could be placed at that rate. West Point's continue neglected and without business. Hongkong Hotels have been placed at \$133 and close with buyers at that rate. Humphreys have changed hands at \$11½ and \$11¼, closing with sellers at \$11¼.

**COTTON MILLS.**—We have nothing to report under this heading.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**—China Providents have changed hands at \$9, Green Islands at \$30, China Light and Powers at \$10, and Watsons at \$13. We have nothing else to report under this heading.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

| COMPANY.                   | PAID UP. | QUOTATIONS.          |
|----------------------------|----------|----------------------|
| Alhambra .....             | \$200    | \$100                |
| Banks—                     |          |                      |
| Hongkong & Shanghai .....  | \$125    | \$860, sales         |
| National B. of China ..... |          | London, £90.         |
| A. Shares .....            | £5       | \$40, buyers         |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A. .... | 12s. 6d. | \$71                 |
| China-Borneo Co. ....      | \$12     | \$61                 |
| China Light & P. Co. ....  | \$10     | \$10, sales & buyers |
| China Provident .....      | \$10     | \$9, sales & sellers |
| Cotton Mills—              |          |                      |
| Ewo .....                  | Tls. 50  | Tls. 64, sellers     |
| Hongkong .....             | \$10     | \$161, sellers       |
| International .....        | Tls. 75  | Tls. 61              |
| Laou Kung Mow .....        | Tls. 100 | Tls. 67½             |
| Soychee .....              | Tls. 500 | Tls. 3 0             |
| Dairy Farm .....           | \$6      | \$16                 |
| Docks & Wharves—           |          |                      |
| Farnham, B. & Co. ....     | Tls. 100 | Tls. 117             |
| H. & K. Wharf & G. ....    | \$50     | \$103, buyers        |
| H. & W. Dock .....         | \$50     | \$170, sales         |
| New Amoy Dock .....        | \$61     | \$17, buyers         |
| Shanghai & H. Wharf .....  | Tls. 100 | Tls. 220             |
| Fenwick & Co., Geo. ....   | \$25     | \$21, sales          |
| G. Island Cement .....     | \$10     | \$30, sales & sel.   |
| Hongkong & C. Gas .....    | \$10     | \$175, buyers        |
| Hongkong Electric .....    | \$10     | \$161                |
| Do. New .....              | \$10     | \$16, sellers        |
| H. H. L. Tramways .....    | \$100    | \$220, buyers        |
| Hongkong Hotel Co. ....    | \$50     | \$133, buyers        |
| Hongkong Ice Co. ....      | \$25     | \$230                |
| Hongkong Rope Co. ....     | \$50     | \$143, sellers       |
| H'kong S. Waterboat .....  | \$10     | \$10, sellers        |
| Insurances—                |          |                      |
| Canton .....               | \$50     | \$355, sellers       |
| China Fire .....           | \$20     | \$86, buyers         |
| China Traders .....        | \$25     | \$97                 |
| Hongkong Fire .....        | \$50     | \$300, buyers        |
| North China .....          | 25       | Tls. 92½             |
| Union .....                | \$100    | \$790, buyers        |
| Yangtsze .....             | \$60     | \$190 sales          |
| Land and Buildings—        |          |                      |
| H'kong Land Invest. ....   | \$100    | \$116, buyers        |
| Humphreys' Estate .....    | \$10     | \$111, sellers       |
| Kowloon Land & B. ....     | \$30     | \$39, buyers         |
| Shanghai Land .....        | Tls. 50  | Tls. 117             |
| West Point Building .....  | \$50     | \$53, sellers        |
| Mining—                    |          |                      |
| Charbonnages .....         | Fcs. 250 | \$490                |
| Raubs .....                | 18 10    | \$3, sales           |
| Philippine Co. ....        | \$10     | \$51                 |
| Refineries—                |          |                      |
| China Sugar .....          | \$100    | \$180, sales         |
| Luzon Sugar .....          | \$100    | \$25                 |
| Steamship Companies        |          |                      |
| China and Manila .....     | \$25     | \$18                 |
| Douglas Steamship .....    | \$50     | \$41, buyers         |
| H. Canton & M. ....        | \$15     | \$21½, buyers        |
| Indo-China S.N. Co. ....   | \$10     | \$93½, buyers        |
| Shell Transport Co. ....   | \$1      | \$24½, buyers        |
| Star Ferry .....           | \$10     | \$32, buyers         |
| Do. New .....              | \$5      | \$23, sellers        |
| Shanghai & H. Dyeing ..... | \$51     | \$50                 |
| South China M. Post. ....  | \$25     | \$20, sellers        |
| Steam Laundry Co. ....     | \$5      | \$7, sellers         |
| Do. ....                   | \$5      | \$6½, sellers        |
| Stores & Dispensaries      |          |                      |
| Campbell, M. & Co. ....    | \$10     | \$32, ex div.        |
| Powell & Co., Wm. ....     | \$10     | \$11                 |
| Watkins .....              | \$10     | \$6, sellers         |
| Watson & Co., A. S. ....   | \$10     | \$13 sales           |
| United Asbestos .....      | \$4      | \$9                  |
| Do. Founders .....         | \$10     | \$160                |

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the Week ending the 29th March, 1906, states:—Since our last business has been almost entirely

confined to winding up accounts for the March Settlement, which during the week has passed off quite satisfactorily. The forward business during the week has been extremely small and there seems to be no impetus at present for any development in time contracts. Cash and forward transactions at rates ruling just now give no returns for funds invested, and altogether the forward market shows no activity. The T.T. rate on London is 2/10½. Banks.—H. & S. Banks. Hongkong quotes \$355, and the latest London quotation is £87. 10s. Marine and Fire Insurance.—A single transaction in North China is reported at Tls. 90. Shipping.—Indo-Chinas. There has been one transaction in this stock at Tls. 67½ for March. Docks and Wharves.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co., Ltd. There was a demand to cover short selling for the March settlement, which enhanced the value of this stock. Last week's rates closed at Tls. 118½ for the settlement and this week sales were made at Tls. 120. No forward sales are reported. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves. There was a certain demand to cover sales for the settlement and the prices ruled steady at Tls. 222½ and 220. There is nothing forward reported. Sugars.—Perak Sugars. There are buyers at Tls. 70 for cash. China Sugars are quoted from Hongkong at Tls. 189 ex div. sellers. Mining.—There is no business reported. Shanghai Lands are firm at Tls. 117. Industrial.—Ewos, and Laou Kung Mows. There is no business reported this week. International shares have changed hands at Tls. 61. Shanghai Gas. There are buyers at Tls. 130. Shanghai Ices have been dealt in at Tls. 23 ex div. China Flour Mills. There are buyers at Tls. 80. Langkats. Sales have been made for the March settlement at Tls. 225 and 222½, with a small lot negotiated at Tls. 220 unreported. There is a good demand for shares forward and we close with buyers at Tls. 230 June. Stores and Hotels.—There is nothing reported under this heading this week. Miscellaneous.—There is nothing to report. Shanghai Mutual Telephone Co. We hear of sales at considerably higher rates than our quotations. Loans and Debentures.—Municipal debentures have been dealt in freely at the following rates:—5 per cent.—Tls. 85, 5½ per cent.—Tls. 90, and 6 per cent.—Tls. 98.

## TONNAGE.

**HONGKONG, 6th April.**—Freights coastwise are steady. From Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul offering; to Philippines, 25 cents last; to Java and Japan, no further demand. Bangkok to this, 21 and 23 cents per picul. From Newchwang to Canton, 22 cents per picul last. Coal freights are firm. From South Japan coal port to Hongkong, \$1.30 to 1.40 per ton; to Canton, \$2.00; Swatow and Amoy, \$2.00 per ton. From Hongkong to Hongkong, \$1.50 uom.; to Canton, \$2.00 per ton.

The following are the settlements:—

*Alabama*—British steamer, 1,241 tons, Karatsu to Hongkong, \$1.30 per ton.

*Tayu*—German steamer, 1,065 tons, Kuchinotzu to Swatow, \$2.00 per ton.

*Hilary*—German steamer, 1,276 tons, Hongkong to Shanghai, \$2.50 per ton.

*Daggy*—Norwegian steamer, 832 tons, two trips Hongkong to Canton, \$2.00 per ton.

*Daphne*—German steamer, 1,415 tons, Newchwang to Canton (22,000 piculs), 22 cents per picul.

*Falk*—Norwegian steamer, 1,380 tons, Rajang to Hongkong, \$11,000 per month.

*Norden*—Norwegian steamer, 1,496 tons, Saigon to Kobe, 27½ cents per picul.

*Hans Wagner*—German steamer, 961 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 25 cents per picul.

An Indo-China S.N. Co.'s steamer, Saigon to Hongkong, 16 cents per picul.

*Peik*—Norwegian steamer, 744 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 28 and 21 cents per picul.

*Triumph*—German steamer, 769 tons, monthly, one month, at \$5,750 per month.

*Tholma*—Norwegian steamer, 1,187 tons, monthly, 1/1 month, private terms.

*Emma Luyken*—German steamer, 1,109 tons, monthly, two months, at \$0,250 per month.

*Heimdal*—Norwegian steamer, 761 tons, monthly, 2½ months, at \$5,250 per month.

## FREIGHT.

From Hankow per Conference Steamers.—To London and Northern Continental ports 46/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Harve 41/6 per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) 32/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (overland), Tea & \$1½ cents per lb. gross, plus river freight. To Shanghai: Tea and General Cargo, Tls. 1.80 per ton, weight or measurement.



## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

April—

## ARRIVALS.

- 1, Tonkin, French str., from Shanghai.
- 1, Zoroaster, British str., from Moji.
- 2, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
- 2, Chinsang, British str., from Sourabaya.
- 2, Ernest Simons, French str., from Saigon.
- 2, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
- 2, Kashing, British str., from Wuhu.
- 2, Loongsing, British str., from Manila.
- 2, Namsang, British str., from Calcutta.
- 2, Prinz Waldemar, Ger. str., from Kobe.
- 2, Rein, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
- 2, Satsuma, British str., from Singapore.
- 2, Singora, German str., from Bangkok.
- 3, Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
- 3, Athenian, British str., from Vancouver.
- 3, Bellerophon, British str., from Singapore.
- 3, Castor, Norwegian str., from Foochow.
- 3, Cowrie, British str., from Singapore.
- 3, Dagny, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
- 3, E. Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
- 3, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
- 4, Amer, British str., from Singapore.
- 4, Bornes, German str., from Sandakan.
- 4, Colombo Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
- 4, Daigi Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
- 4, Glenroy, British str., from Singapore.
- 4, Haiching, British str., from Coast Port.
- 4, M. Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
- 4, Manila, British str., from Antwerp.
- 4, Taiyuan, British str., from Sydney.
- 4, Terrier, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
- 5, Capri, Italian str., from Bombay.
- 5, E-sang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 5, Kilburn, British str., from Saigon.
- 5, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 5, Lingsang, British str., from Swatow.
- 5, Machew, German str., from Bangkok.
- 5, Nerite, Dutch str., from Palambang.
- 5, Oceana, British str., from Shanghai.
- 5, Peik, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
- 5, Pekin, British str., from Singapore.

April—

## DEPARTURES.

- 2, Chinkiang, British str., for Canton.
- 2, Ernest Simon, French str., for Shanghai.
- 2, Germania, German str., for Bangkok.
- 2, Hinsang, British str., for Swatow.
- 2, Mazagon, British str., for Singapore.
- 2, Persia, Austrian str., for Singapore.
- 3, C. Apear, British str., for Singapore.
- 3, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 3, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 3, Helene, German str., for Hoihow.
- 3, Kashing, British str., for Canton.
- 3, Kuishow, British str., for Tientsin.
- 3, Nippon Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
- 3, P. Waldemar, German str., for Sydney.
- 3, Satsuma British str., for Foochow.
- 3, Shinano Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
- 3, Taming, British str., for Manila.
- 3, Tonkin, French str., for Europe.
- 4, Bellerophon, British str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Dagny, Norwegian str., for Canton.
- 4, Hoangho, French str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Maizuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
- 5, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
- 5, Chanley, British str., for Chefoo.
- 5, Falk, Norwegian str., for Rajang.
- 5, Haversham Grange, British str., for Vladivostok.
- 5, Manshu Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
- 5, Sungkiang, British str., for Swatow.
- 5, Talisman, Norwegian str., for Singapore.
- 5, Welsh Prince, Br. str., for Vladivostok.

## PASSENGERS.

## ARRIVED.

Per *Changsha*, from Japan, Mrs. Allan, Miss Voila Grey.

Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Messrs. D. M. Mickle, R. J. Baimings and J. A. Jupp.

Per *Taiyuan*, from Sydney, &c., Capt. and Mrs. French, Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair, Mrs. McColl, Mr. McColl, Mrs. Viloudaki and child, Mr. Bragg.

Per *Manila*, for Hongkong from London, Mr. and Mrs. Heanley, Capt. Blandford, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor; from Singapore, Messrs. Smith and Eadie; from London for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Hodges; for Yokohama, Mr. Brown; from Singapore, Mrs. Coulthard.

Per *Namsang*, from Calcutta, Dr. and Mrs. A. Nugent, Dr. and Mrs. E. Smyth, Rev. and Mrs. Taylor and 3 children, Miss Stoddart, Miss Goodfellow, Lord Beauchere, Messrs. E. C. Cotes and G. F. Stoddart.

Per *Zafiro*, from Manila, Major and Mrs. C. G. Starr, Miss B. Dionisio, Messrs. W. Davidson, A. McDermid, F. B. Biss, F. B. Biss, Jr., A. Hamilton, Leoncio Divino, S. Sonoda, V. Liguigan, J. Liguigan.

Per *Zafiro*, from Hongkong, for Manila, Mrs. L. K. Taylor, Mrs. M. Kelly, Messrs. J. M. Lusin and J. M. Jupp.

Per *Oceana*, from Yokohama for London, Mr. L. S. T. Burrell, Miss Belbin; from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Seranton; from Shanghai for Hongkong, Mrs. Jaquin, Mr. and Mrs. Bruns and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Serno, Messrs. R. Bergen, R. H. Griffiths, A. Babbington, Alderton, and D. Law; for Singapore, Mr. Hankin; for Colombo, Mrs. Brereton Frost; from Kobe for London, C. P. Ritson; from Shanghai for Brindisi, Mr. H. Cohn and servant; for Penang, Mr. A. Mackie; for London, Mr. and Mrs. S. Elder, Miss Ingram, Mr. R. S. Lewis, Mrs. Reid, children, inf. and amah, Miss Owen, Messrs. Williams, Walker and A. M. Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. Shaw, infant and amah; for Marseilles, Mr. McMurtrie.

Per *Tonkin* for Hongkong from Yokohama, Mrs. Gillon, Mr. J. Caurenberg; from Kobe, Messrs. A. Kuhn, Wishida, Komiza, Hirata, Hiramota, Asai and Wakauchi, Miss Chikiri; from Shanghai, Messrs. J. Kowasaki and Liddle, Mr. and Mrs. Garrith and infant, Messrs. P. Swenson, Lundholm, Bland, Moar, Odsata and Isidore Kropper; for Saigon from Yokohama, Mrs. H. A. Becker and infant; from Kobe, Messrs. Bancourt and Seven, Miss Apiri; from Shanghai, Marquis Heuri, Messrs. Zoumancha, Soubmonika and L. van Chao; for Singapore from Kobe, Mr. Y. Yonei; from Shanghai, Mr. Zerner, Mr. and Mrs. P. Goldenberg, Messrs. R. Freemann, H. Baker, Mrs. Kodu, Mrs. Masumoto, Messrs. Salomon and Hayes, Mr. Wada and son; from Yokohama for Batavia, Messrs. Kawasumi and Saki; for Marseilles, Mr. A. de Lanaffen, Mr. and Mrs. R. Lacroix, Mrs. Bickart and infant, Messrs. de Marsay and Steenakers, Mrs. Frique, Mr. Aguarrui y de Salis, Rev. Isidore Boyer, Messrs. Legras, Mrs. Sefeling, Mr. Trojuk, Mrs. Bickart; from Kobe, Mrs. Schapira, Mr. and Mrs. Legrand; from Shanghai, Mr. Gimon, Miss Rzier, Mr. Yadat, Mrs. and Miss Moninot, Mr. J. Boutella, Ct. Venge, L. Vitali, Mr. Merrick, Mr. and Mrs. Chonet, Mrs. Conling, Messrs. Byppel, Colson, Sœur Emmanuel, Corban, Giffart, Berlin, Couruey, Boutet, Lafita, Pavlin, Souza Migneir, Mare, Butour, and Gessel.

Per *Ernest Simons*, from Marseilles for Yokohama, Messrs. M. R. Gronade, Garrido and Kraux; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Hallows, Messrs. R. B. Kahn, Groesbeek and Dutt; from Singapore, Mr. Humieres, Mrs. Blot, Miss Perry; from Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. Liblain, Mr. Nohugawa; for Kobe from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Evard; for Shanghai from Marseilles, Dr. Manot, Messrs. Horman, Comlet, Anger, Duon, Casellac and Szeghney, Mrs. Revalot, Messrs. Sangste, Roating and Tabbari; from Suez, Mr. and Mrs. Diamonti; from Colombo, Mr. J. D. Taylor, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Mussen, Mr. Sauriers, Mrs. Singer, Mrs. Rahmar; from Singapore, Messrs. Reinhardt and Gramberg, Mrs. Ferry, Mr. Schirk; for Hongkong from Marseilles, Messrs. Murray Seaton and Alexander; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. and Misses Millar (3), Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Murray, Messrs. Robinson, Mr. da Silva, Mr. Eickes; from Singapore, Messrs. E. C. Beebe and T. H. Beebe, Dr. Hochne, Messrs. Ravletta Martin, C. M. Krays, I. W. Allen and Bonnel; from Saigon, Messrs. Shemonga, Roulard Shermikan, John Wilon, Thomas and Francis.

Per *Haiching*, from Foochow, &c., Mrs. Ramsay and Miss Fleming.

Per *Tean*, from Manila, Messrs. Chamberlain, Hann, Van Dayner, Fraser Heywood, Kernan, Hollnd, de Lano and Spalding.

Per *Zaida*, for Hongkong, from Rangoon, &c., Capt. and Mrs. Geoghagan, Messrs. Fleming, Jas Kemp, Brano Muller and Bernard Rienenfeld.

Per *Catherines Apear*, from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Smith, Lieut. Bull, Messrs. Hoyt, Hitch, Byrne, Dralli, Martin, Gentles and Best.

## DEPARTED.

Per *Shinano Maru*, from Hongkong for Seattle, Ports, &c., Messrs. W. Daniel, C. Glover and A. B. Lewis, Lieut. W. K. Cook, Lieut. C. M. T. West, Mr. and Mrs. M. Nooy, Messrs. U. Fujioka, Y. Ataka, T. Mikami, F. S. Ryner, N. B. Bilsara, P. J. Laird, M. Arias and B. M. Lloyd, Miss Stacey, Mr. G. Nakamura, Rev. D. Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. Tomotsumi and infant, Mrs. Osato, Mrs. S. Takahashi, Mr. S. Oyama.

Per *Ernest Simons*, from Hongkong for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. F. Davies, Miss Ella Snow, Messrs. H. S. Rosenthal, Y. Ataka, T. Mikami Fujioka and H. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Hanning, and child; for Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Jefferson; for Yokohama, Mr. J. C. de Souza Botelho.

Per *Prinz Waldemar*, from Hongkong for Australia, Messrs. Max Bieumler, Jos. Canwerbergh, Edward Gantner, A. Kipell, A. Kroekeberger, Mainke, Sigmund Meier, Paul Merz, J. Schaffrath, Murray Seaton, P. E. Stirtou, Vooiz, Wittrock and Wulff.

Per *Tonkin*, from Hongkong for Saigon, Messrs. C. Hartley, H. M. Evans and A. Peremien, Mrs. M. J. Archard, Miss Yamamoto, Mr. Charles Divoie, Mr. and Mrs. Lecour; for Singapore, Dr. Debat, Messrs. Haptein, Schmitz, Huykman and de Rie; for Marseilles, Messrs. Pierre Huber, Ewens, O. Kelly, J. Chretien, Lebail, P. Parize and P. Demotes, Mantard, Mr. and Mrs. R. Prokopee, Mr. F. Godfrey, Capt. Boyd, Messrs. G. Morrison and L. de Fort, Mr. and Mrs. C. Parsons, Messrs. D. Phillips, J. Chriswick, J. le Castole, P. Peyrusanbes, P. Zalaleta, F. Mibu, A. Gueran, J. Ollivier, J. Jestin, J. Traouin, J. Moru, J. Simons, Emile Gimon, A. Raphael and E. Chas-poul; for Colombo, Messrs. Dalmikoff, Tichot-sky and H. T. Stone.

Per *Delta*, from Shanghai, for London, Mr. and Mrs. Besley and infants, Mr. & Mrs. F. Anderson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Cope, Capt. Tufnell, Lieut. C. G. Crutt, Mrs. Sparke and infant, Mrs. and Miss K. i. y, Mrs. P. H. Millard and infant, Miss A. Kelly, Mr. Lazarus; from Yokohama, Mr. S. P. Gladstone; from Kobe, Mr. E. Cateaux; from Shanghai, for Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Buckland and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Hannes, Miss Brodhurst; to Singapore, Mr. W. H. Jeffer; from Hongkong, for London, Mr. and Mrs. Gracey, Mr. & Mrs. Rutter, Mrs. MacIver, Mrs. Parker and infant, Mrs. Bentineck, child & infant, Mrs. Robbins, Mrs. Morrow, Miss Shaw, Misses Melnikoff (3), Messrs. J. J. Robson, G. H. May, R. T. Johnson, A. R. Parker, L. Hallward, Commander R. W. Bentineck; for Gibraltar, Rev. F. Aguirre; for Marseilles, Mrs. J. C. Peter, Mr. A. G. Morris; for Brindisi, Mr. and Mrs. S. Hamburger & Miss Hamburg, Master Hamburger, Mr. Q. E. Fearley; for Bombay, Mrs. M. N. Yarpurvala, Mrs. J. N. Harda, Mr. F. M. Tarporvala; for Singapore, Dr. J. Bell, Bros. Gabriel, Bro. Isidore, Messrs. S. Lamb, R. D. Harvey and H. A. Kelly.

Per *Nippon Maru*, from Hongkong for Shanghai, &c., Messrs. C. S. Ridgway and wife and E. W. Mattison and wife, Mrs. I. Frohman, Miss Mullins, Messrs. Frank Hitch and Baroness Enggelet and maid, Miss Moat, Mr. Harris, Miss Vail, Mrs. J. C. Goodrich and infant, Miss Rueth, Mrs. J. T. Case, Mrs. Ellis Cromwell, Messrs. K. Bisbe and Jesse George, Mrs. J. C. Sweeney, Mrs. H. H. Christie, Mr. Dorothy Christy, Mrs. J. M. nuel, Messrs. M. C. Harrison and C. M. Lukesh, Lieut. S. Crawford, Lieut. M. Covell, Mr. W. F. Johnson, Miss Brook, Mr. H. H. Sebrer, Mrs. Kemp, Mr. A. J. Jenkins, Mrs. K. Smith, Miss Brigham, Mrs. D. H. Wall, Miss J. W. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Kersy, Col. and Mrs. Barrett, Messrs. B. Bienenfeld and S. S. M. Ede, Miss L. H. McConnell, Mrs. M. Vail, Mr. J. Goodrich, Miss Goodrich, Mrs. Lucinda L. Ornsby, Mr. Archie Case, Miss Mildred Cromwell, Mrs. T. S. Jewett, Hon. J. C. Sweeney, Miss Sue Sweeney, Gladys Christie, Marjory Christy, Mr. F. S. Cairns, wife and son, Miss E. Harrison, Messrs. H. H. Glover and H. J. Hallett, Mrs. Edna K. Clinton, Miss Coleman, Miss Demler, Mrs. S. W. Taylor, Messrs. A. N. Whitlow and A. Staeler, Mrs. C. B. Brigham.

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